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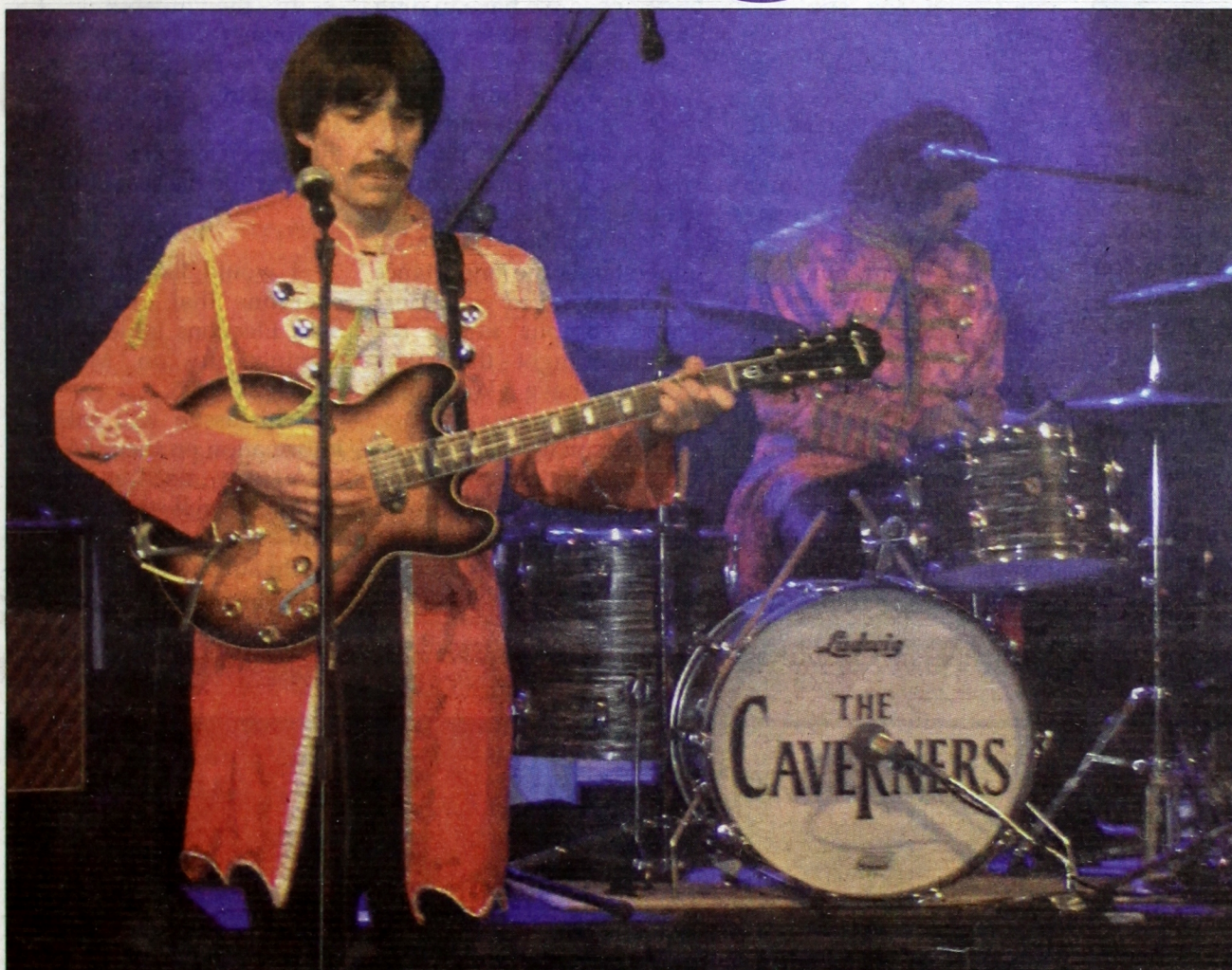


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Robin Crowder / LAMBDA

Shown above are the Caverners, who played the Fraser Auditorium on Sunday, March 13.

BY ROBIN CROWDER
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Canada's number one Beatles tribute band lived up to its moniker on Sunday night in the Fraser Auditorium as they wowed audience members with their authentic costumes, stage sets, accents and of course, vocals.

Brought to Laurentian by the fourth year SPAD class as a fundraising event for their upcoming field trip, the Caverners performed an extraordinary show covering all major Beatles songs and thrilling all in attendance. It was a shock - and very impressive - to see just how much these four men resembled the original Fab Four! Nearly every part of the Caverners gear held that notable Beatles look, including the old British VOX amplifiers and Ringo's claim to fame Ludwig drum set.

Opening the show in original Beatles attire of three piece black suits, the four impersonators had their idols down to a tee, from the hair cuts to the teeth to the mannerisms. For the first half of the set, John, Paul, George and Ringo brought back old memories with songs like She Loves You, Help! , Hard Days Night, and I Wanna Hold Your Hand, getting crowd members to sing along, scream along and wave their hands. The Caverners even displayed their prowess at Liverpudlian accents making jokes and comments that included both Beatles and local Sudbury humour.

Continued on Page 15

New chapter for Laurentian Bookstore

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The final fate of the Laurentian University Bookstore will be determined in the near future, with a recommendation from the Bookstore Review Committee to accept the proposal from Folletts.

"Change is change, and people are a bit nervous about that, but I think overall it will be a good thing for Laurentian," suggested Gerry Labelle, Laurentian's director of finance and chair of the committee. The recommendation is to proceed to the university's finance committee on Mar. 30 for support, before it goes before Laurentian's Board of Governors on Apr. 8.

The Bookstore Review Committee was put together last fall to examine the issue of how to best manage the bookstore following the tragic passing of former bookstore manager Richard Morin. At that time, the committee decided to send out a request for pro-

posals to companies who might be interested in taking over the management of the bookstore, as well as considering the possibility of hiring someone to take over the position of manager.

"When you have an opportunity to do something, you look at all of the options," Labelle said. "It is one of the things that all universities do."

Labelle pointed out that the Bookstore Review Committee went through a "very extensive process." The committee consulted with students, teachers, and meet with the Teaching and Learning Committee. There was also a representative from the Teaching and Learning Committee, as well as student representative Tannys Laughren, sitting on the review committee.

The Bookstore Review Committee also spoke to other institutions where Folletts already has set up shop, such as Cambrian College, Northern College and Sault College.

"We have heard nothing but very

positive comments," Labelle explained.

Cathy Carroll, president of the Student General Assembly (SGA), was optimistic about the recommendation.

"Obviously we had a student representative on the committee, who exercised due diligence in contacting other student unions and other stakeholders in this decision. The key items in this decision were ensuring bookstore prices do not increase, protecting the staff, and ensuring there was no degradation of service, and these items have been addressed," Carroll said. "We look at this as a new chapter for students, and Folletts has given every indication they are student friendly and will bring services that will add to the student experience."

Labelle agreed.

"They are in the post-secondary bookstore business," he said. Labelle pointed out that in the mid-1990s, Chapters tried to get into the business of running school bookstores and failed "miserably" because, as they

learned, running a text bookstore is a lot different from running a store that sells books for the general public. Folletts, on the other hand, succeeded, and proved to be progressive.

"That is their main business," Labelle stated. He pointed out that the store will still be called the Laurentian University Bookstore, the only change will be that Folletts is managing the facility.

"The staff is still going to be our staff," Labelle said. "There is only going to be one Folletts employee, and that is the manager."

He pointed out that, should the Bookstore Review Committee's recommendation be accepted by the Board of Governors, Folletts is prepared to make a considerable capital investment in the facility, and construction may be completed over the course of the summer.

"Come September, you will see a much rejuvenated bookstore," Labelle stated.

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EDITOR'S CORNER**The "parking" order**

DEBBIE SAUVE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

We all know what the ultimate bonus in Monopoly is - free parking. Maybe the Parker Brothers were trying to teach us a valuable lesson as kids - if you can find free parking, you should consider it as you would consider winning the lottery.

At Laurentian, parking is a bit like a hierarchy. At some times I wonder what elite are parking in the lots closest to the buildings? Over the summer at Orientation, I found out that there is actually a two year waiting list for most of the "upper" lots, which is pretty

much everything above the pit. Who has the foresight to think about a parking pass two years in advance? I'm lucky if I remember to renew my license plates once a year, and that's with the mailed reminder!

During the day, there is a clear parking pecking order based on the colour of the tag hanging off one's rear-view-mirror. However, what about after the sun goes down?

I have a lot of night classes right now, and the one thing I notice week after week is that even past 6 pm the parking gates remain down. All I have to say is that parking is even free downtown after 6 pm.

During the day, it is completely understandable why we need passes to park in certain designated areas. First, the school needs to pay to maintain and upgrade that service through our fees, and second, parking here would be anarchy without a few guidelines. However, what I have a hard time understanding is why these boundaries need to hold

during the evening.

Anyone who has night classes would have noticed that it is relatively quiet at Laurentian during this period and most of the lots are just lightly peppered with vehicles. These days, since it seems to me we are paying for everything that is even somewhat marginally related to our university experience, why not give us a break when we have to drag ourselves to class for an evening session? I don't think it would hurt anyone to just let students and faculty go ahead and park in whatever lot is closest to the building they need to be at.

The school obviously understands the importance of not having to walk clear across campus under the shadow of night - that's why we pay to have a Walkhome service.

I personally have a pass for the Huntington lot and don't mind walking down for my classes in the Parker building, but I still don't see why the lots can't be open to all during the evening. I suppose it is to make more

money off those students who drive to school, or those who are visiting the school for evening events.

However, I should also mention that at certain select times the large lot by the golf course is open at night, although it remains a mystery to me what the criteria is for a free parking night (not that I'm complaining when it happens).

In the meantime, I'll continue to wonder where exactly in the food chain my Huntington pass leaves me, and still roll my eyes when the upper lots are empty at night while the pit is full.

P.S.

I would like to remind everyone that our annual SGA Elections issue will be coming out on Monday March 21, 2005.

This issue will include information on the SGA and SGA fees, election procedures, as well as candidate profiles.

Be sure to pick this up, and remember to come out and vote for your favourite candidates!

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SPACE FOR RANT

Think twice about twice the cups

BY SARAH STRICKLAND
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

As a student walking around campus, you don't have to look far to spot someone enjoying a Tim Hortons beverage; and the number of cup-filled hands increases even further when 'Roll Up The Rim To Win' comes to town. With their eyes on the prize, many coffee drinkers increase their consumption or upgrade their beverage size in hopes of upping their odds of winning.

Sadly, however, there seems to have also been an increase in the amount of beverages that are being "double cupped." It is hardly rare to observe a student toting a 'Roll Up The Rim' cup nestled in an older one, with a tea bag string poking through the lid. I have even seen instances of "triple cupping" in which the warm beverage warrants two layers of extra insulation.

My understanding of this practice was that it was done mostly for tea and upon request. After asking around, I also found out that Tim Hortons often automatically supplies the second cup, even if the buyer does not request it. The second (and perhaps third) cup offers insulation, making it more comfortable to the touch, but one has to ask, "Is it really worth it?"

When people use two cups for their beverages they are essentially making twice the waste. Except for the lid, there is twice the volume being thrown into the garbage. This wasting is exaggerated by the fact that the second cup has not even been used to hold liquid and enters the waste basket clean. While I'm sure that it's more comfortable on the hand for the first five minutes, one has to wonder if making twice the waste for comfort is fair to our environment.

If everyone stopped double cupping at Laurentian, campus waste could be reduced sub-



Debbie Sauve / LAMBDA

Even though it is Roll Up the Rim season at Tim Hortons, think about going with only one cup - it may be saving the environment more than you think.

stantially. There are ways to hold your Tim Hortons cup (such as the "above claw" or "above and below grip") to reduce the feeling of heat. In addition, you can always give back the second cup. If you tell them that you want to save the paper, the Tim Hortons staff always takes the cup back.

Many people have said to me, "But it's only one cup!" While this is true individually, these extra cups add up across campus. If everyone uses

only one cup per beverage and makes sure they dispose of it properly (rather than on the ground or out the car window), our environment will be enriched. Small changes can make a difference for the environment and avoiding double cupping is an easy change to make.

So next time you're enjoying your Tim Hortons drink, take some time to think of the environment. Cut your waste in half and avoid double cupping!

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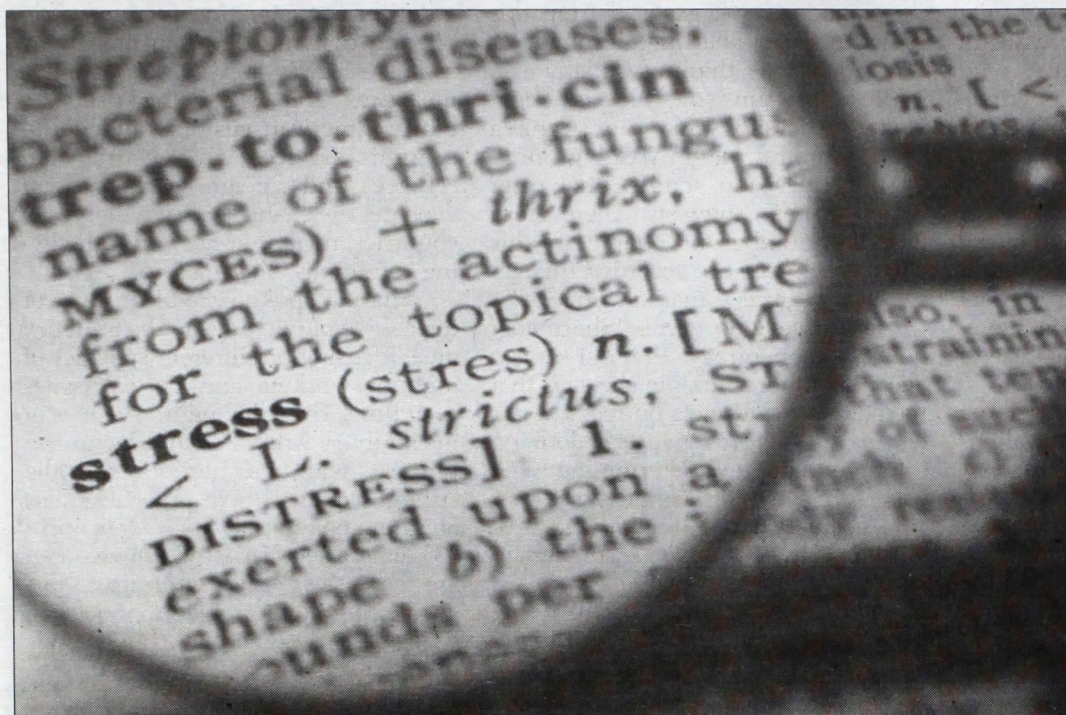
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CAMPUS NEWS

Are you stressed? *Bringing balance to your life*



BY MELISSA BEEDLE
THE OTHER PRESS (DOUGLAS COLLEGE)

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. (CUP) - It's not even mid-semester and already I feel frazzled. Not just frazzled, but totally, completely, fill-in-a-bleeping-swearword frazzled. I've taken up smoking again. My so-called healthy-eating resolution has gone out the window. My gym membership has expired and my Visa is reaching its limit again, which is always the sure-fire indicator that yes, I'm stressed out. Because as much as I love shopping, I absolutely despise credit cards. Or truthfully, maybe what I really despise is the memory of creditors calling me, not to mention the whole concept of interest. God, I have a headache just thinking about it.

If you can at least partially relate to the above symptoms, then I hate to tell you this, but you're probably stressed too. So beyond downing five martinis, a Bellini and umpteen shots of tequila on Friday night (and then spending the rest of the weekend on your sagging student couch recovering), just what can you do to keep your stress level to a minimum? I'm talking about doing this without resorting to over-the-counter medication, or in my case, turning your lungs into a black-filled tobacco disposal centre. (And you thought smoking was glamorous? Hate to disappoint you.)

First, I must confess that I am sometimes a burnout case waiting to happen. I said sometimes. I am a sucker for taking on projects. I'm one of those raise-your-hand, sure-can volunteer types, even though I freaking hate those kind of people. Not to mention the fact that I love to make money, and as you already know, love spending it even more.

So how do you know when enough is enough? How do you stop the breakdown before the meltdown, so to speak? Since I for one don't know the answer, I called up personal coach Nancy Bradshaw to see what she had to say.

Bradshaw is the co-founder and past president of Canadian Business for Social Responsibility. Last year, she received an Ethics in Action Award for her role as a leader in B.C.'s social responsibility movement. The Vancouver Sun named her as one of the top 25 new leaders. She has since started a coaching business called Spark Strategies, where she helps people overcome challenges and minimize stress levels. She is clearly a woman with some idea of balance,

if there is such a thing.
Here's her advice:

CUT OUT THE THINGS THAT ARE DRAINING YOU

"You have to prioritize the things in your life. Look at what you're doing and what's important to you, and then look at how much time you are actually spending doing those things you love," Bradshaw says. "I ask my clients to write down everything they do for a week and look at the actual hours they are spending doing the things they love. Chances are they're spending more time doing things they don't like than they need to be."

VISUALIZE YOUR GOALS

Bradshaw helps her clients find what they really want to do and then set small goals to get the things they want. "You have to visualize what you really want in your life, if you ever want to get it," says Bradshaw. "They did a study in Switzerland with a group of Olympic athletes. One group spent 75 per cent of their time practicing and the other 25 per cent of their time visualizing their goals. Another group spent 75 per cent of their time visualizing and 25 per cent of their time practicing — and they were the ones who actually performed better. That shows you how important it is to be clear about what you want and to really believe that you can do it."

SURROUND YOURSELF WITH PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT YOU

Once a week, Bradshaw calls her best friend and they coach each other for about an hour and a half. "We ask each other lots of questions," says Bradshaw. "We commit to each other things that we want to do and really make sure that we are clear on what we want from our lives. If I'm doing things that are counterproductive to who I am and what I want, she calls me on it."

But what if you don't have much time? According to Bradshaw, "You make the time. Maybe you cut out an hour of TV or reading and you use that time to connect with the supportive people in your life. You have to make those connections a priority because they are the ones who are going to help you when you're stressed or when you're unclear about where you should be going next. Ideally, we all should be doing what we love at least 80 per cent of the time."

Ah, so that's what balance is.

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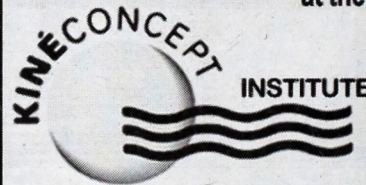
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CAMPUS VOICES

Nationalistic fervour causes oppression: Sharma

BY BEN ROWE

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Nationalistic fervour is used to oppress people, according to York University professor Nandita Sharma. The author of a new book, *Un-Making Nations: No Border Movements in the Struggle Against Racism*, talked to close to 100 students, many of them in Laurentian's Introduction to Sociology class, at the Fraser Auditorium on Thursday, March 3.

Sharma told the gathered students that nationalism "leads to conflict and strife because of internal factions singling out one group under the guise of nationalism." A social science professor at York and a frequent worker with justice groups for migrant workers, Sharma has authored numerous books on the subject of migrant workers, including *On Being Not Canadian: The Social Organization of Migrant Workers in Canada*, and *Immigrant and Migrant Workers in Canada: Labour Movements, Racism and the Expansion of Globalization*.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the idea of nationalism has been used to deny

rights to groups of people who "don't look Western," Sharma said, telling the crowd that "ideas of nation have never been far from ideas of race." Sharma wove a cautionary tale about American and Canadian border patrol policies of denying entry to foreigners and detaining people without just cause, and referred to four Muslim men in custody in this country who haven't been charged with any crime. "These are the strictest immigration rules ever right now," Sharma said. Sharma quoted Canadian immigration statistics to highlight the sheer volume of traffic flowing in and out of North America: "an unprecedented 175,000,000 (people) crossing borders every year this decade; and the movement is supposed to double by the end of the decade," she said.

Sharma used the term "global apartheid" to refer to the way nationalism is used as an excuse to keep certain groups of people out of industrialized nations. While global apartheid uses "legality and bureaucratic processes" to ensure many ethnic groups are kept out or denied rights, governments and the people behind them use a means far more subtle and

pervasive, Sharma said. By using "emotional stimuli", including "judicious flag-waving and appeals to patriotic duty," the proponents of nationalism can further their agenda to create more polarized and race-based immigration policies.

Canada is not excused from this criticism either, Sharma cautioned.

"Some may think of Canada as a hapless victim or an innocent bystander," she said. "But Canada plays a central role in creating immigration rules and statutes that cater largely to U.S. interests. There are a growing number of people in this country who are not accorded full status and rights as Canadian citizens."

To those who accuse Sharma of being a conspiracy theorist or an alarmist in her thinking, she said that the statistics and facts on record back her up. It's simply a matter of looking into it yourself and determining what is correct, she told the students.

"(Canada is) creating a workforce with no access to social plans, no access to wage or working standards, and no rights with regards to living conditions," she argued. "So many displaced and disenfranchised people

have no voice, no power when it comes to their rent. Landlords can charge whatever they want and these people (immigrants with no citizenship status) have no control."

In short, Sharma said Canada and the U.S. are using racially-motivated criteria for mistreating foreign workers and denying rights to those who are here legally as well. Preventative measures are also being used by North American customs and immigration services to ensure that refugees and foreign workers don't even get the chance to leave their own countries, no matter how poor the living conditions, Sharma said.

Sharma spoke several times over the course of two days in the Sudbury area, focusing on different specifics of migrant workers and border issues each time. Thursday night, she was at the Sudbury Arts Council to lecture on Empire, war and borders and the struggle against them. The next day, Sharma spoke at an SGA event in L-303, where she discussed how women are the easiest minority group to target and highlighted several projects in the works designed to counter this trend.

Laurentian to offer new \$500 bonus to incoming students



BY DEBBIE SAUVE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Laurentian University is known for its dedication to helping students meet the monetary challenges of postsecondary education by offering a wide variety of financial aid programs. In fact, in this year's Maclean's national survey, Laurentian ranked fourth out of 47 universities for the percentage of total operating expenditures devoted to scholarships and bursaries.

However, Laurentian has proven that it does not intend to stop there, recently announcing the introduction of a brand new \$500 incentive for incoming students.

"The more money that we can put into the hands of students, the happier that we are," said Suzanne Brunette of the Financial Aid department at Laurentian. "I think that this will prove to be an excellent incentive tool and will get more students looking at Laurentian."

The bonus will be awarded to students who are being offered admission to Laurentian University and who have an average between 80 and 84.9 per cent in their best six courses in high school.

There also will be no cap on the amount of money that will be offered this year

through the bonus, meaning that the bonus will be awarded to every single registrant who fits the criteria. Brunette estimates that this will translate into an additional \$100,000 in entrance money in addition to the regular amount awarded in entrance scholarships.

Entrance scholarships are awarded each year to students who have just graduated from full-time studies at a secondary school and who have high academic standing. This year there were 223 students in the \$1,000 level, which is awarded to students in the 80 to 84.9 per cent range.

Laurentian also offers other entrance awards for students with higher averages than 84.9, and these include: \$2,000 for an average of 85 to 89.9 per cent, \$2,500 for 90 to 94.5 per cent, and anything greater than that will be a minimum \$3,500. These awards are renewable for a maximum of three additional years.

The bonus scholarship is a little different than other entrance scholarships, as it is only a one-time deal.

"Although no decision has been made yet as to whether or not we will offer the bonus in future academic years, I think that will be yet another way that we can do our part to help students finance their education," Brunette said.

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LAMBDA

SGA ELECTIONS ISSUE

On stands:

Monday, March 21, 2005

CAMPUS VOICES

PRITCH PICKS: 2005 Hyundai Tiburon

BY JUSTIN PRITCH
LAMBDA COLUMNIST

Tiburon is the Spanish word for "shark" and when the original Tiburon was introduced in the mid 90s, it represented a daring take on styling in its class. Nothing could really compare to the Tiburon in looks. It instantly stood out with a radical interior, sculpted bodywork, exaggerated curves and projector headlamps. The Tiburon had thrown conservative styling out the sunroof and sliced the envelope in half with its shark-fin spoiler. My kind of ride.

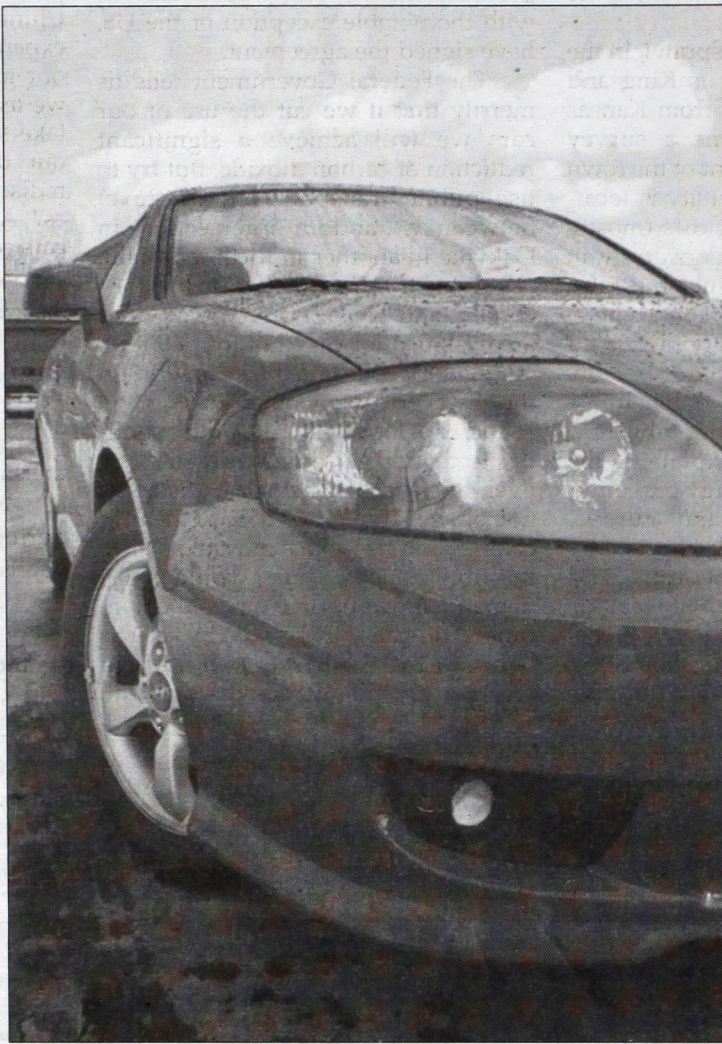
For 2005, much remains the same. The competitors are mostly familiar, the look is more refined, and the market is still highly driven by twenty-something folks who want fun, expressive low-buck cars. The difference for Hyundai lies in its achievement of a reputation for superior quality. So then, are you ready for just about the most legal fun you can have starting at under \$26,000?

Sharks never stop moving, even while they sleep; and that's fitting because the styling of the new Tiburon makes it look like it's speeding along even while it's standing still. Fender vents are styled like shark's gills. The sculpted lines and chrome gas cap cover demand attention and the dual chrome exhaust tips hold it until the car is out of sight. The front end is instantly serious and distinct- it doesn't look like a combination of a few other cars you have seen before and it still isn't afraid to stand out. It's arguably the real "looker" in its class.

The racy styling carries on inside too, with metallic trim throughout the tastefully restrained cockpit which does the trick, lending itself to the cars overall sporting spirit, but without overdoing it. The leather and cloth seats in my SE model tester offered plenty of adjustments and bolstering but were padded and comfortable at the same time. Red accent stitching gives the interior flare without screaming for attention.

The Tiburon is a sports car-meaning there are some sacrifices. Sports cars handle well, so they don't have a plush ride. They are light, and therefore small, and therefore short on storage space for your belongings and your friends. A V6 engine is available but my tester was a 4 cylinder with 138 horsepower.

Here's the point - let's say you compromise and get a sports car - you want to be noticed and you adore the



Justin Pritch / LAMBDA

The 2005 Hyundai Tiburon is is a looker - from any angle.

smell of leather and you don't have large friends. Then you compromise the actual performance by having your sportscar with a four cylinder engine. If you go with the Tiburon, the compromise is a happy one. You pay a little over \$25,500 (less if you can operate a clutch and gear lever) and you get all kinds of features, like an MP3 player, sunroof, alloy wheels, fog lights, and even a security system. Then you get covered too, as Hyundai has an unbeatable 120,000 kilometer powertrain warranty. Imagine how long it would take you to rack up that kind of mileage. You could drive to and from any Tim Hortons in Sudbury sixty thousand times and still be covered.

Seeing "four cylinder automatic" on the window tends to make sportscar fans look away. Your mother probably drives a "four cylinder automatic" car to the grocery store. But I was impressed: the engine doesn't have a ton of power, but it provides adequate motivation, loves to be revved, and doesn't sound wimpy. It only drinks a gallon of gas every 39 miles. The automatic shifts are very smooth, and the shiftronic feature is a load of fun once you get used to it - you may find yourself as I did forgetting to shift the gears in manual mode since there is no clutch to

remind you to do anything. The shiftronic computer will compensate if you mess up, which is good, because I would have accidentally shifted down instead of up a few times while getting used to the system.

If you share the car with someone who doesn't like a manual, this feature is ideal. Tap the lever forward to go into the next gear, pull it back to shift down. Pull it back twice and punch it from about 80 kph and you'll be wearing a grin in no time. Put it in drive if you're having a coffee on the way to work. You get the idea.

Despite the firm suspension, enthusiasts will love the handling. The ride isn't harsh or noisy- but it also isn't incredibly soft either. The chassis is very composed and it's easy to place the car in its line while cornering at speed. Even cornering quickly over very rough roads doesn't present a challenge- the Tiburon goes exactly where you point it without a fuss. The brakes are also phenomenal, as it pulls down from highway speeds straight and flat and in a hurry. They have just the right amount of feedback, and you will feel very confident in stopping fast when you need to.

This shark is easily poised to take a big bite out of the competition, and I can't wait to try the V6 model. Stay tuned.

Reading the fine print of the Rae Education Report

BY SHAILAGH KEANEY
SGA VP STUDENT ISSUES

As most students on campus know, the Rae Review of Post-Secondary Education was set up in the 2004-2005 provincial budget to evaluate the entirety of Ontario's Post Secondary Education system. Fronted by former Ontario Premier Bob Rae, this process could have been a time and place to advocate for the accessibility of Ontario's postsecondary schools. It has instead churned out an ugly framework for increased tuition fees and increased student debt.

Despite a demonstration of popular public support and an outpouring of anecdotal evidence from students that "tuition fees are simply too high", the Rae report recommends that the current tuition fee freeze end in 2006, coupled with an immediate tuition fee increase of at least 10%. Granted, the report does recommend an immediate injection of public funding into the postsecondary system, but students have known the need for increased public funding for a decade (not coincidentally, since Bob Rae was in office)! Our buildings are crumbling, our labs are inadequate and our classrooms are short-staffed. Wow, Bob. Thanks for the insight.

Another point of concern is the fact that the report opposes centrally-regulated tuition fees. If your alarm bells are going off, they should be; this means the possibility of deregulated tuition fees in Ontario. This attitude holds that tuition fees should be based on "what the market can bear", and is foundational to the unprecedented tuition fee increases that Ontario students have seen over the last 15 years. The reality is, this funding model perpetuates student debt and declining quality of post-secondary education. It should be noted that, for every \$1 that tuition fees have gone up since 1994, public funding has been reduced by \$1-\$1.25. Yep, that's right; your tuition fees are simply subsidizing provincial cuts to our public systems. And Bob Rae wants to see that trend continue.

Now I must congratulate at least one really good thing about the final Rae Review proposal; the re-introduction of needs-based grants. After removing Ontario's system of needs-based grants over 10 years ago, Bob Rae is willing to say that he made a mistake. Apology accepted. However, the new system of needs-based grants that is being proposed simply does not go far enough. Only students who come from families making less than \$22,600 per year are eligible to receive \$6,000 in grants. After that, any students whose family makes \$22,600 to \$35,000 would be eligible for a jaw-dropping \$500 in grants. Under this plan, anyone who does not live in "poverty" as defined by Statistics Canada is ineligible for grants. And even those who do don't get a reliable hand up.

While there is much to furrow your brow about when looking through the hefty 150 page Rae Review report, I will address one more detail. Bob Rae seems to be a huge fan of public-private partnerships to help alleviate the public financial burden of postsecondary education. Contrary to statements made by the President of Laurentian, however, small universities and colleges would be left behind if forced to rely upon private interests to help maintain working operation. As it stands, York University and the University of Toronto share about 60% of all private investment in Ontario's postsecondary institutions. That leaves the rest of us schools to fight for the other 40%. Furthermore, when you're small, isolated and northern, each of these factors count against you. Get ready for the fight of your life, Laurentian; the rest of the kids in the schoolyard are much bigger than you.

While the recommendations being handed down by the Rae Review are alarming at best, there is still hope for students in Ontario taking a stand against higher tuition fees, higher student debt and the declining quality of our institutions. Over the past year, we have seen over 2,000 petitions signed, 700 postcards sent and over 200 students show up to our Day of Action Against Tuition fees from Laurentian alone. Combined with the fight that student unions across the province have mounted, we have certainly shown the public support that exists for our schools. We have to continue to organize and make sure that this is one that Bob won't win.

CAMPUS NEWS

Kyoto Protocol or bust: you be the judge

BY RENE RODRÍGUEZ-JIMÉNEZ
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

I woke up; some turbulence had rudely shaken me. I looked at my window and I gazed over Houston's vast expanse of suburbia. I was on my way home after my vacation in Mexico, when I normally make a stop-over in Bush's Houston. It never fails to amaze me how undifferentiated houses look all over the US and Canada's barren suburban lands. A few hours later, I peeked towards the ground as the plane was in its final stages to land at Pearson. Mississauga lay below. It looked like Houston, with some snow and polite Canadians roaming the streets in their cars.

The view of cities from above was very different while flying over Mexico, or for that matter, if I were flying over Europe or any other urbanized country in the world. Cities in those areas are compact (and have somewhat more character) when seen from above.

The urban sprawl that afflicts the US and Canada is a consequence of the affluence of those societies, some might allege. But Europe, with similar levels of income does not suffer this

problem. Historical reasons have played a part, for sure. European cities were mostly founded in times when travelling distances was a big problem. Any ancient city tends to be compact, adapted to the times of people transporting themselves by foot or by animal traction. And in Europe, space comes at a premium.

As a consequence of sprawl, in the US and Canada, the car is King and Queen. A friend of mine from Kansas State University told me a survey found that over 50 per cent of the town surface, where the university is located, consists of spaces for cars (mostly roads and parking lots). Conversely, in Europe, although car ownership rates are similar to the ones found here, public transportation has priority. And there it is cost efficient to do so. How can you provide efficient public transportation in swathes of suburbia? Cars are a big factor in explaining the striking difference in energy consumption between the US and Europe. Europeans consume half the energy when compared to Americans, and both have a similar output of wealth.

We are all concerned about global warming, or at least we should be. There is even a fair chance that we

have had a very lucky run so far, since human activities seem to have worked against an ice age encroaching for the last one thousand years, ameliorating the effects (see the Scientific American now on newsstands). The Kyoto Accord is a first step in addressing the problem. Canada and most countries, with the notable exception of the US, have signed the agreement.

The Federal Government tells us merrily that if we cut the use of our cars we will achieve a significant reduction of carbon dioxide. But try to use public transportation to travel between a random intersection in Oakville to another in Richmond Hill. Or closer to home, between the four corners and New Sudbury. Our cities are designed for cars, not for people.

A work colleague bikes to work in the city every day, about a 50 kilometre round trip. I love bicycling, but I shudder to the idea of doing it in Sudbury over the winter. Such vast distances not only would burn a good deal of calories and fat (which most of us have in abundance), but would also demand an important investment in time. And then, this brave bicyclist is harassed by car drivers (who do not see him, in spite of his glaring light,

because they "don't expect him to be there") and other authorities who seem to think he is too much of a risk to himself.

So, since we are all wusses in biking everywhere under these inclement circumstances, how can we play our part for Kyoto? Probably, insatiable China and India will make oil so expensive that we will have to change our gas guzzling habits soon. Should we tear down our houses strewn over lake shores and fields, where we and our dogs run unimpeded? Will we rediscover the charm of huddled houses? Are flotillas of hydrogen-fuelled cars coming to the rescue?

Personally, I never turn on my electric heater in my tiny apartment (I think it does not even work at all), but I confess that I do that mainly because I hate the noise. I survive just because the rest of the building is heated, and thermodynamics allows for some heat to reach me. My apartment can go, during the winter, down to a balmy 15 degrees Celsius. I try to bicycle a bit in the summertime and car-pool whenever possible (almost never), but should I shorten my long showers with scalding-hot water? Probably not.

Slow as a sloth and the sunshine theory

BY TARYN GREEN
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

It's 8:20 am. You are in your car near the Science North-Laurentian Hospital intersection on your way to Laurentian University on a bright and sunny morning. You are still not totally awake and you drink your coffee in large gulps to solve that problem. You are tired and would much rather be in bed sleeping than trudging to class at such an ungodly hour. Though you still have roughly 10 minutes to get to class, the last thing you want to contend with is the traffic that seems to be moving at sloth speed (did you know that sloths move so slow that fungus grows on them?).

You finally make your way through the jammed intersection and set off (very slowly) on the long and winding stretch of road to your beloved university. Like a string of ants slowly marching off to war, you sit in your car and fiddle with Sudbury's poor excuse for what it calls radio stations. It is now 8:25 am and you have made very little progress and all hopes of getting to class on time go down the drain. As your mind wanders, because listening to Nelly for the fifth time in a row is not your idea of a wake-up call, you look ahead into the sea of cars and notice a glimmer of hope. Though you are at a complete stand-still, far ahead of you cars mysteriously start moving at a relatively faster pace. How does this happen? What is it that makes the traffic so jammed like an accident, and then as soon as you make your way around a certain bend, the speed increases?

The other morning, like many other mornings before it, this very scenario occurred on my way to school. Upon my arrival, late as usual (I guess I should just

leave home a little earlier), my fellow classmates, who were also late, shared a laugh with me about this morning-traffic mystery. I realized I wasn't the only one who fails to understand the weird morning drive to Laurentian. So in an attempt to solve this mystery, I can only propose one possible theory. There are, evidently, many cars all going to one place, and if we all go at a constant speed then there should be no need for a traffic jam since there are no traffic lights or stop signs on that entire stretch of road. And, if the cars start to speed up at one specific point, then it could only lead me to one conclusion for who or what is responsible: the sun. I can't think of any other reason why people would come to a grinding halt other than that the sun is blinding them. It kind of makes sense, and cars seem to speed up right at the point where the sun is behind the hill of the golf course and stays hidden behind the towering university buildings that follow. Thus, a shadow engulfs the rest of the windy road to the university allowing us to make a speedy recovery and head to class. So, can we blame the sun for our constant 8:30 am tardiness? The true test is whether you are also late on cloudy days. When we wake up in the morning, maybe we should check outside to see whether it is a sunny day in order to gauge the amount of time needed to arrive promptly to class.

I have never noticed whether or not the traffic is better on cloudy mornings, so keep an eye out for that. And if the traffic is still as slow as ever, I invite you to write in and disprove my Sunshine Theory, because God forbid we do something more productive with our time. I mean, why study for a test when you can contemplate for hours why the morning traffic on the way to school is so backed up?



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CAMPUS VOICES

New fieldhouse will be valuable asset to Laurentian

NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
ASSISTANT EDITOR

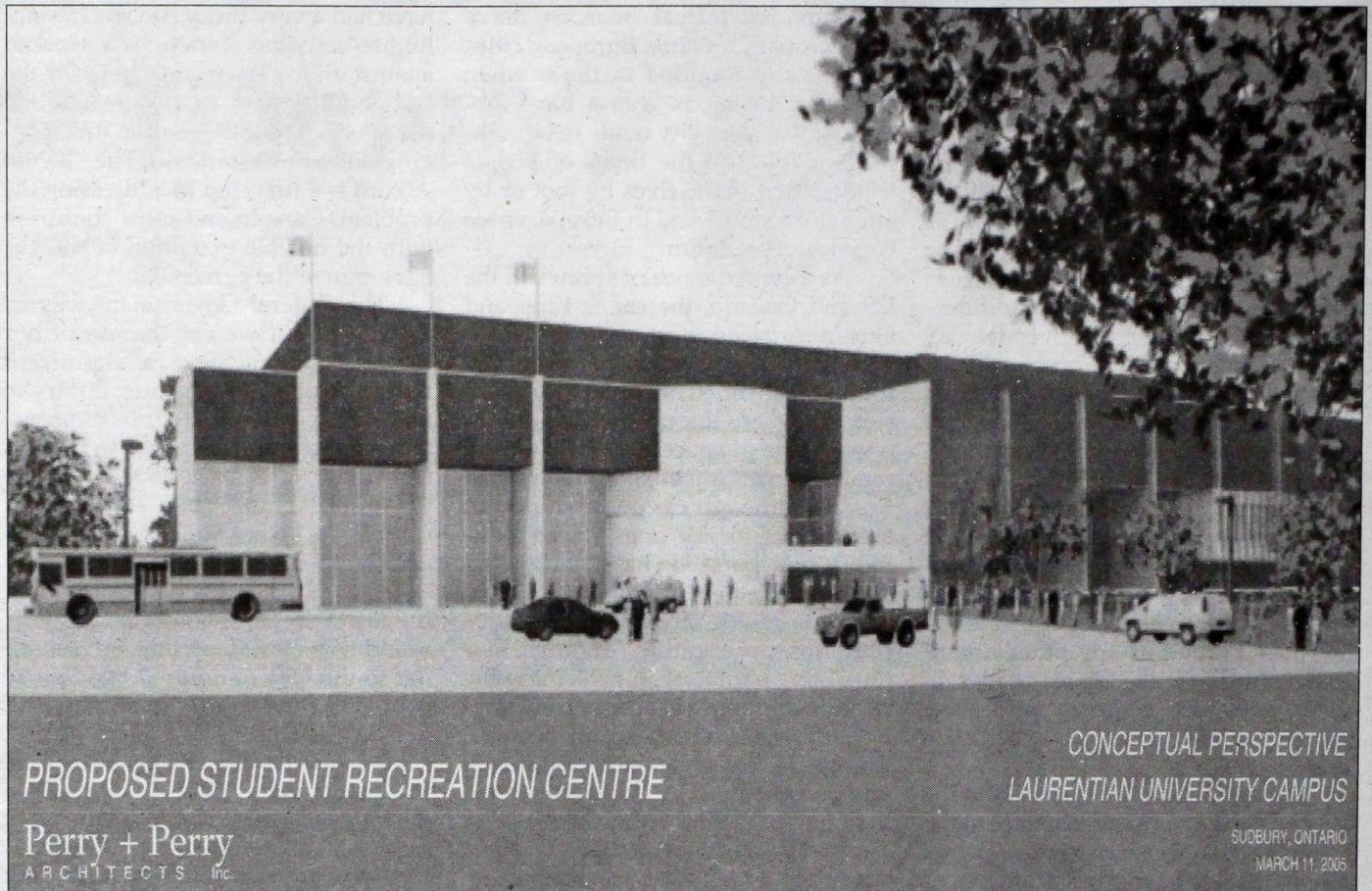
Students, if you care for your university, heed my advice: when you pick up your election ballots for the upcoming SGA election (because we all know you plan to vote) and you get down to that referendum question as to whether you would be willing to help support the construction of the new fieldhouse being proposed for Laurentian, vote in favour.

I know there are some of you out there who never use the gym or the other athletic facilities available at Laurentian, and perhaps some of you are more like me - I keep planning to get down there, and I eventually will... to write exams. But for those students who do use the facility, and I'm discovering more and more who do, the new fieldhouse is a much-needed upgrade to the existing athletic facilities on campus.

The staff at the B.F. Avery Physical Education Centre are doing the absolute best job they can based on the limitations of the existing facility, but let's face it, the athletics facilities at Laurentian, compared to other similar sized universities in Ontario, are slightly behind the curve.

Now, Laurentian is blessed with many wonderful facilities and has invested in some quality projects, like the new Learning Commons that opened in the library this year, but a good university looks after more than just the minds of its students. A good university looks out for the entire well-being of its student population. A healthy mind and a healthy body make for a healthy individual, and really, is that not the kind of graduate Laurentian would like to send off into the working world?

Really, the type of facility being



Shown above is a simulation of what the proposed fieldhouse will look like when completed.

Graphic Supplied

proposed is not unlike the facilities offered at similar sized universities, many of which Laurentian competes with directly in recruiting students. In order to continue to thrive, Laurentian needs to be competitive in recruitment, particularly with the demographics suggesting a decline in Laurentian's student numbers in the coming years. The university needs to at least be on par with its chief competitors in order to maintain stable recruitment levels. But I digress.

There is another reason why students should vote in favour of this

new facility and that is, simply, because Laurentian students deserve it. I realize that we, the present student body within a year or two of graduation, will probably never get to enjoy the facility (unless we pay a visit after we graduate), but quite frankly, if we can't have it, why should we deprive future students from enjoying a quality athletics facility with more space for intramural sports and facilities for other new activities that students could participate in on campus (like squash)? In fact, should we not do everything we can to make the Laurentian

University experience even greater for future students? I like to think so.

We, as students, need to have the foresight to commit to a project that will benefit future Laurentian students and alumni. Only by doing so can we help propel Laurentian University to even greater heights.

So when you reach that referendum question on the ballot on Election Day, be sure and lend the project your support. I know the extremely enthusiastic organizers behind the project would appreciate it, and I'm certain future Laurentian students would feel the same.

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Noted labour economist to present second Jennifer Keck Lecture on Social Justice

The second Dr. Jennifer Keck Lecture Series on Social Justice will take place on Wednesday, March 23, with two presentations by Dr. Jim Stanford, an economist in the Research Department of the Canadian Auto Workers, Canada's largest private-sector trade union. A seminar, hosted by Laurentian University's Institute of Northern Ontario Research and Development, and is entitled "Back to the Future: Is Canada Becoming a Hearer of Wood and Drawer of Water Again?" will be presented at 3 pm, in room C203 of the University's Classroom Building.

The second Jennifer Keck Lecture on Social Justice, entitled "Labour's Roller Coaster," will be presented at 7 pm in the Joe Hill Auditorium, Mine Mill Hall, 13 Regent Street South, Sudbury. This public lecture will be preceded by the launch of the book *Mine Mill Fights Back*. Admission is free and everyone is invited.

This lecture series commemorates the late Jennifer Keck, an associate professor in Laurentian University's School of Social Work. She was a committed social activist who had a tremendous impact on her colleagues, the School and the community. Following her death in 2002, a fund was established to support the Dr. Jennifer Keck Lecture Series on Social Justice. This is the second of these biennial lectures. Dr. Jim Stanford embodies many of the same qualities and commitment to achieving social change that were found in Dr. Keck.

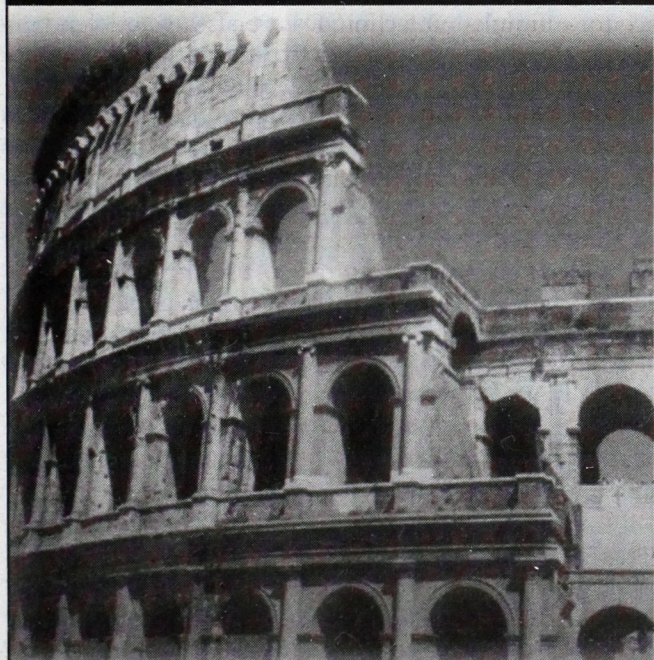


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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Science & Technology Editor: Kevin Roche - lambda_science@laurentian.ca

Understanding genetically engineered food (GMOs)

BY KEVIN ROCHE

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Genetically engineered foods have become more widespread in their usage in Canada over the past 10 years. Many of us have reacted to them with an element of fear in regards to the unknown consequences of this type of food, which has undergone the process of genetic modification.

There have been several Canadian organizations which have begun lobbying the government for several initiatives - the end of the use of genetically engineered food. Other organizations have had more moderate demands, calling for the labeling of all products which contain genetically engineered foods.

The use of the terms related to genetically engineered food seems to change frequently, and they are sometimes referred to as GE food, GMOs, biotechnology, to name a few. It is important to know and to understand the uses of these terms so that there is not any misunderstanding. It must be noted that human beings have been modifying plants and breeding animals for selected traits for many millennia, always aiming to improve yields, shelf-life or flavour. But this type of modification is significantly different from the type that is currently being used today.

The genetic modification of food, which is earning a poor reputation from environmental and citizens organizations, should then be understood as the process where the food is created by using techniques where there is genetic material prepared outside of the cell which is then introduced directly into the organism. These techniques include microinjection, macroinjection and micro encapsulation, cell fusion as well as hybridization procedures by which living cells are formed with a new combination of genetic material using methods which are not found under natural conditions.

For the majority of the population, these procedures sound very complicated and are hard to understand. The organizations that are opposed to these practices have attempted to compensate for this detail and have created advocacy campaigns to spread information about the potential risks that genetically engineered food pose to the public and the environment.

Greenpeace has been a vocal supporter of increased consumer awareness concerning genetic engineering (GE). They have released numerous reports about the consequences of these foods and believes that environmental contamination could arise from GE plants when wild, related flora and non-GE or organic crops are pollinated by a GE crop. Greenpeace also advocates that consumers and citizens have the right to know what they are eating and supports the labeling of all products containing GE food. In an effort to provide Canadian's with this information, they have released a shopper's guide entitled "How to Avoid Genetically Engineered Food."

The Council of Canadians is a citizen's group that is interested in biotechnology and has released a campaign to raise critical awareness towards the issues that concern biotechnology. The Council of Canadians has critically evaluated many of the promises that have been made about the sudden rush of biotechnology with its abilities to cure hunger with GE food, to find new sources of energy and fiber to create a "renewable" society, create miraculous drugs and gene therapy which would produce



Photo Supplied

The most common foods to contain bio-technology in Canada include corn, soy beans and canola. They are most often found within processed foods.

healthier babies, eliminate human suffering, and extend human life. They consider all of these promises as simply too good to be true. The Council of Canadians views the widespread use of GE food without a consumer consciousness as an experiment involving citizens which they urge to end.

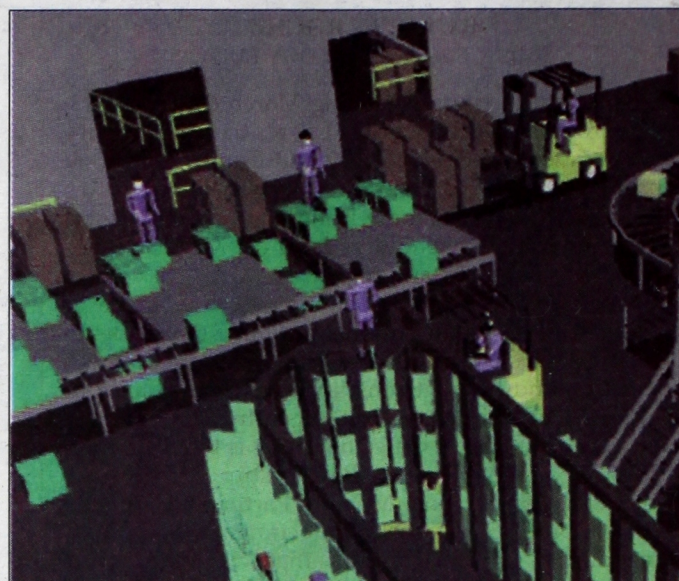
I recently had the opportunity to speak with a representative from Monsanto Canada. Over the telephone I was able to ask her several questions which I hoped would possibly clear up any of the myths that are out there that a lot of people hold concerning biotech foods. She expressed that a lot of the people who are afraid of these bio-tech foods are simply misled and do not fully understand the situation.

She informed me that over the past 10 years biotech crops have been on the market nobody has ever died, let alone gotten sick from eating biotech food. She also was informative about the number of highly specialized scientists who are responsible for the creation of the seeds that Monsanto Canada sells to Canadian farmers. She again assured me that bio-tech food is safe and reminded me of the amount of food regulatory bodies in Canada that protect the interests of Canadians.

When I asked her about what Monsanto has been able to do that has been positive towards improving world hunger, she told me about how genetically engineered food that is resistant to pesticides helps farmers Canada and in the third world in several ways. Not only do they ensure a larger crop, but it also keeps expenditures down for the farmer as they will not have to spray their crops several times throughout the season.

It seems that bio-technology can have a legitimate place in our world, and given the ability to conduct further research significant discoveries can be made to promote this technology. Until then, it is important that Canadian's are aware that when they go to the grocery store, they know whether or not their food contains genetically engineered food. As a result, Canadian citizens ought to encourage their government to push for the labeling

Mining simulation



BY KEVIN ROCHE

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Masters of Applied Science in Mineral Resources Engineering student Greg Yuriy, presented information last week based on his research being performed at LUMAL (Laurentian University Mining Automation Laboratory) and funded by NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada).

On Mar. 10 he presented a seminar based on Discrete-event Simulation Modelling and Maintenance Analysis of Mining Equipment. The simulation technologies that were discussed at the seminar were the AutoMod and Simul8 software. By looking at the combination of simulation with maintenance analysis of mining equipment, engineers have found an effective method for assessing the impact of equipment failures on mine production systems.

The Simul8 software creates a 2-Dimensional image but it is easy to work with as the software is uncomplicated. The AutoMod software is capable of presenting a 3D image but it is very complicated to use and there is a steep learning curve. Simulation techniques are an expensive investment for a company that wishes to perform such studies for their own purposes.

The Simul8 software package costs \$1,295 and AutoMod can be cost anywhere from \$18,000 to \$25,000 to purchase. The simulation tools used in this study are very unique from one another. Despite this, it has been found that Simul8 is a viable alternative to AutoMod because of the smaller investment required to use the software and because they are able to produce comparable results.

Discrete-event simulation is a modelling technique that is used for the purpose of generating real-life systems based on variables and events, which throughout their course change at distinct points in time. By simulating these events, the study is able to assess the impact of equipment failures to mine's production throughput by merging the reliability assessment model based on genetic algorithms with discrete-event simulation models.

In the simulations, a large amount of data can be inputted. During the presentation, there were models simulated for the purpose of this research which depicted a typical underground mine in the Sudbury region in Ontario, Canada. These models included all of the variables that one would find within these environments including haulage drifts, crosscuts and draw points driven for material handling purposes.

The two levels are 50 metres apart vertically and they are connected by a spiral ramp. Each level contains six available headings/stops for work to be performed in, two ore pass dump areas, and a parking/garage location for idle machinery to rest and not interfere with other ongoing operations.

When failures occur within a mine, the failures are recorded into data which researchers will be able to input into simulation. Many factors are taken into account during this process and the best solution that is found with the simulation can then be used to lower the amount of failures within the mine. The research work performed in Mr. Yuriy's study clearly demonstrates that the combination of simulation with reliability analysis of intensive mining equipment is an effective methodology for studying the capacity of production systems in mines.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Science & Technology Editor: Kevin Roche - lambda science@laurentian.ca

Laurentian University provides aid for Mexicans

BY KEVIN ROCHE
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Earlier this month, during March 6 through 13, representatives from Laurentian University traveled to Mexico City and Cancun and took part in Industry Canada's Sustainable Cities Initiative to share their environmental expertise with colleagues and stakeholders from the Mexican cities of Reynosa and Matamoros.

Laurentian is the only university in Canada to take part in this international initiative that seeks to enhance the sustainability of economic development in cities, and help citizens improve their quality of life without compromising their future.

The Sustainable Cities Initiative is the result of a 2004 Canada-Mexico Partnership agreement between Canada and Mexico. Participants in this project produced a working document with recommendations for Mexican cities that will be presented in June 2005 to Mexican President Vincente Fox and Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin during their upcoming bilateral meeting. The results of the project will be highlighted during the presidential visit.

The Sustainable Cities Initiative has brought together Canadian and local stakeholders in the pursuit of partnership-based solutions to the challenges of urban sustainability. The cities of Reynosa and Matamoros, located in the northern Mexican border regions, face a range of challenges linked to the rapid growth of their urban and industrial activities. These include the contamination of water sources, waste water management, air and water pollution, as well as the lack of green spaces and parks.

In a public address issued by Dr. Judith Woodsworth, President of Laurentian University, she stated "Laurentian professors have acquired an international reputation for their work on the environment, having successfully reclaimed industrially damaged ecosystems and improved the quality of life in Greater Sudbury. Our contributions were recognized at the 1992 Rio Summit, and we are looking forward to establishing international linkages and sharing our expertise with Mexico and other countries."

The project team sent to Mexico from Laurentian University included Dr. Liette Vasseur, Dr. John Gunn, Dr. Jorge Virchez, Dr. Daniel Campbell,



Photo Supplied

Indicated by the star, Mexican cities Reynosa and Matamoros received aid from Laurentian University and Greater City of Sudbury strategists to formulate a policy to improve living conditions. This strategy will be presented to Canadian and Mexican leaders later this year in June.

Cristina Greco and Jackie Litzgus. Also playing a key role in this event was Carlos Salazar, a senior official at the City of Greater Sudbury, and a professor of land use planning at Laurentian.

Laurentian University provided expertise in natural resources management, watershed planning, ecosystem rehabilitation, community development, facilitation and land use planning. The Laurentian team also worked with the municipalities and the citizen committees to develop a community engagement and planning strategy for the rehabilitation, conservation and development of the lake La Escondida in Reynosa, and the city recreational area of el Laguito in Matamoros.

Because Sudbury is internationally recognized for its re-greening and land reclamation efforts, lake rehabilitation, and the ongoing restoration of Junction Creek, as well as its planning approach to

sustainable development, the Sudbury model has been proposed as a solution, since it favoured a collaborative approach involving citizens, government, industry and the University, to resolve environmental problems. As part of the bilateral partnership between Canadian and Mexican stakeholders, these groups are developing partnership-based solutions to the challenges of urban sustainability.

The City of Greater Sudbury, as it is today, was built on the collaborative efforts of the local residents and Laurentian University researchers, proactively creating change in a once devastated environment. It is this accomplishment that provides the expertise so desperately needed in these Mexican cities. This is a rare occurrence in Canadian history and presents an opportunity for Greater Sudbury to achieve international recognition.

Role of science in influencing policy development

BY KEVIN ROCHE
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Dr. Ed Piché, Director of the Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Branch at the Ministry of the Environment, presented a lecture in Laurentian University's Fraser Auditorium on Mar. 9. In his talk entitled "Science and Policy Immiscible Partners - Admissible Truism," he identified several different issues within Ontario that were important to the scientific communities and how the government is responding to these issues.

In his presentation, Dr. Piché related some of the highlights of his 30-year career of managing science in the Ministry of the Environment. Dr. Piché also put emphasis on the important role of science in influencing policy development and formulation. He brought up several contemporary examples such as climate change and nutrient management in an attempt to highlight important lessons.

Of the current environmental issues that the Minister of Environment is currently focused on, Dr. Piché outlined that the Ontario government is examining sustainable growth, climate change, Great Lakes water quality, acid rain, invasive species, pesticides/herbicides, source protection, fossil power plant emissions, vehicle emissions, air, water, soil and vegetation standards, and biological and nutrient management.

When discussing climate change, Dr. Piché pointed out that he preferred



Photo Supplied

Science has played an important role of formulating many of the policies that are sent through the Ontario Legislature at Queen's Park in Toronto.

to refer to climate change as "climate evolution." He informed those in attendance that the climate is always changing and will continue to evolve as the environment changes.

In his presentation, Dr. Piché reminded attendees of the importance of updating the air quality index to reflect recent health findings, as well as being more effective in communicating the air quality index values to the general public. He noted that one of the chief air pollutants, ozone, is a regional pollutant, and local actions to moderate ozone will likely not result

in improvements in local air quality. Furthermore, ozone is not just an urban problem, thus responsibility must be placed on communities and industries to ensure that they are not polluting surrounding regions.

Examples of government policies that have been successful related to science as indicated by Dr. Piché have been the reductions in emissions from non-ferrous smelting and power plants which led to a decrease in acid rain. Scientists also came up with ideas concerning the elimination of lead from gasoline and a reduction of mer-

cury from fossil fuel combustion. Regulation has been found to be a very effective method of implementing policies that have made significant differences.

When speaking about young people, Dr. Piché felt concerned that today's young people are not paying enough attention to certain aspects of the environment. He emphasized the importance of the environment and was encouraging by indicating that anyone who wanted to make a difference that the opportunities are available.

In response to the Science Communications, a new Laurentian University Masters program which will be beginning its first year of operation in September of this year, Dr. Piché told students who attended the presentation that he intends to hire one graduate of the program every year to his department in the Ontario government.

When the issue of government was brought up during the presentation, Dr. Piché expressed his concern for politicians who are not highly trained in environment, biology, physics, or other fields of science and feels that ministerial positions in government should go to senior managers who are career people that are well educated into a particular field. He felt that politicians do not receive the type of formal training that would be expected of a scientist and that further scientific policies could be more effective based on his approach.

LAMBDA SPORTS

Sports Editor: Kris Harris - lambda_sports@laurentian.ca

Four LU skiers named all-stars

BY KRIS HARRIS
SPORTS EDITOR

The Laurentian Nordic ski teams had an excellent finish to their seasons this year, with strong showings at both the OUA finals last month and the national championships earlier this month.

The OUA championships, held in February and hosted by the University of Toronto at the North Bay Nordic Club, were a great place for Laurentian to display their dominance of the trails. The men's team placed second overall at the event, while the women's team managed to take home third place, narrowly missing second.

The teams also had some great individual performances at the meet; several Voyageurs cracked the top ten in their respective categories.

For the men, the standout performance came from Rob Bewick, who finished second in both the skate race and the classic race, giving him the silver medal in the overall standings. After a tenth-place finish in the skate race, Phil Wood brought his A-game for the classic portion, finishing fifth in the classic, giving him sixth in the overall standings. Both Wood and Bewick were named to the OUA all-star team for their performances this season.

Other notables for the men's side included: Tim Carleton in 14th, Paul Lammens in 18th, Jeff Crease in 25th, and Dean Waddell in 30th.

On the women's side, two skiers made the top ten: Emily Morel grabbed a bronze medal in the skate race and finished in fourth place overall. Carley Kenwell managed to take seventh in the overall standings, after a fifth place finish in the skate race. Both Kenwell and Morel were named to the OUA all-star team for their efforts.

Other finishers for the women were: Sarah Strickland in 12th place, Melanie Wipprecht in 15th, Kerry Van der Ploeg in 27th, Kristin Zazelenchuk in 30th, Lilla Roy in 33rd and Heather Foley in 36th.

The final event of the season for the Voyageurs came in the form of the Canadian Nordic skiing championships; Bewick, Wood, Morel and Van der Ploeg all made the cross-country trip to Prince George, British Columbia to take part in the competition.

Conditions at the event were challenging, as the warm temperatures stayed in the double digits for most of the week. There were a total of 19 universities from across Canada competing in Prince George for the national titles.

On the first day of the championships, Laurentian placed a respectable tenth in the 3X5km relay. Competing for the Voyageurs were Bewick, Wood and Mike Faddock in the race.

The second day of the competition saw more Laurentian skiers in action. In the 7.5km classic race, Bewick finished 24th overall in the men's category, while Wood placed 13th in the junior men's division, finishing just more than a minute after Bewick. In the 5km women's classic race, Morel took 31st spot in the overall standings, while Van der Ploeg took 22nd in the junior women's division.

The third day of competition saw the first podium finish for the Voyageurs; Bewick took the bronze in the 15km pursuit race. In the first stage of the pursuit, Bewick finished tenth amongst university racers, but in the second and final stage, his conditioning and endurance training paid off, as he passed seven skiers to capture the bronze.

Wood placed fourth among university competitors in the junior division of the pursuit race, placing him 11th of all juniors. Morel finished the 10km pursuit race in 12th spot amongst university skiers, which placed her in 27th spot overall, while Van der Ploeg finished tenth in the junior division of the same race.

Unfortunately for all the skiers, the final races of the competition were all cancelled due to inclement weather; there just wasn't enough snow left on the ground to continue the meet.

With this season over and done with, several Voyageurs have waxed their skis for the last time wearing the blue and gold; Bewick, Carleton, Morel and Strickland will all graduate at the end of this school year, marking the end of their careers as Laurentian skiers and students.



Phil Wood, above, in action during a skate race earlier this year. Wood was named an OUA all-star this season, along with teammates Rob Bewick, Emily Morel and Carley Kenwell. The Laurentian Nordic ski teams had yet another successful season in 2005; both the men's and women's teams medalled in the overall team standings at the OUA championships, held in North Bay last month. The men took the silver, and the women took the bronze.



Pictured above is the entire Laurentian University Nordic ski team, including athletes and coaches. This photo was taken after the second race of the year, which was held in Gatineau, Quebec. The team has just completed this season and will now turn its thoughts towards 2006.

LAMBDA SPORTS

Sports Editor: Kris Harris - lambda_sports@laurentian.ca

A pot-banging good time!

BY KRIS HARRIS
SPORTS EDITOR

Laurentian University offers an interesting and unusual tradition that allows for interaction between its varsity athletes and their fans.

The Pot Bangers have been attending the majority of varsity events for a full decade, and have become a force to be reckoned with in the sports scene at Laurentian. The group had humble beginnings ten years ago, when Marty Prieur and Ben Pook, students at the time, began bringing pots to the games and banging them with whatever was handy at the time.

"They all lived in single-student residence, and they were very spirited guys," said Paulette Lafortune, Residence Coordinator and leader of the current batch of Bangers. "Marty was very active in residence life at Laurentian, and he started it."

But, he probably had no idea that his unique method of cheering for his school teams would catch on so fervently. Now, the music of the Bangers can be heard from afar whenever a Laurentian team has a home game.

They decided on pots "because they're loud and everyone has them," accord-



Pictured above are some of Laurentian's 'pot-bangers', who attend most of the Voyageurs' home games. Their unique method of cheering has gotten attention from visiting coaches across the province.

ing to Lafortune. "They're very accessible." The tool of choice is usually a wooden spoon - Lafortune said her own spoon has worn down considerably since she's been involved.

Whatever is used to

bang the pot, the students involved always seem to enjoy themselves.

"The students that come out have a great time," Lafortune said. "They love supporting their teams, and I think they love annoying

the other team too.

"It's fun, and it's a great stress reliever."

Also, the activity allows fans to be interactive as well as unified with their cheering.

"It gets you more

involved in the game," Lafortune said. "It gets people out, it shows more spirit and more enthusiasm."

"People have fun with it. It seems to get them more excited."

But, banging pots is not the only way to cheer for Laurentian; face paints are always available to those who want it and this year, the school bought 1,000 Thundersticks and disbursed them at games for no charge. The Thundersticks were such a hit, Lafortune said, that they will probably be buying more for next year.

Other schools around the league have also taken notice of the Pot Bangers. Evidently, the technique is effective at getting under the skin of opposing teams; some coaches have gotten quite upset with the group at times.

"You can really get them going without using foul language (by pot-banging)," Lafortune said. She enjoys the fact that her group cheers without sinking to the use of vulgarity, like some schools.

However, the tradition is only intended to raise school spirit and encourage success for the varsity teams at Laurentian, something it will undoubtedly continue to do for years to come.

Ron MacLean to visit Sudbury

Laurentian University Athletics is proud to announce the launch of the first annual Celebrity Sports Luncheon, featuring keynote speaker Ron MacLean of CBC Sports, on Thursday, May 26th at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Centre in Sudbury.

The event will raise funds for student-athlete scholarships and bursaries at Laurentian University. The luncheon will consist of the keynote speech featuring Ron MacLean, a silent auction and sports forum, "Hot Stove Lounge", including local sports celebrities discussing topics ranging from the state of Canadian Olympic programs to professional sports programming in general.

MacLean's first love is hockey, and his passion led him to Toronto in 1986, after stints in Alberta hosting local news and commentating for the Calgary Flames association. He joined Molson Hockey Night in Canada on the CBC, with another outspoken personality, Don Cherry. This winner of six Gemini awards also hosts the Winter and Summer Olympics for the CBC, the Calgary Stampede, Commonwealth games and World Track and Field Championships. He is also a level five referee for the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association.



Ron MacLean, pictured above with Don Cherry at the 19th annual Gemini awards, will be the keynote speaker at Laurentian's first ever Celebrity Sports Luncheon on May 26th in Sudbury.

"We're excited to have Ron MacLean as our first keynote speaker for this event," said Athletic Director Peter Hellstrom. "We hope an individual of his stature can assist us in bringing much needed scholarship and bursary money to the student-athletes."

Hellstrom continued: "In order to compete nationally in all our varsity sports, these types of events are key to raising our profile and scholarship funds. These two factors are important components in assisting our coaches in the

recruitment of elite student-athletes."

Corporate tables for the Celebrity Sports Luncheon are available for \$800 per table at the Laurentian University Athletic Department. Individual tickets are also available for \$80 at Savage's Play it Again Sports, Eddie's Restaurant or the Athletic department. Tax receipts are available. For details please contact the Athletic department at 675-1151 ext.1025 or visit the Web site at www.luvoyageurs.com.

Season Has Ended for Intramural Sports By: Kim Nicholl, Intramural Assistant

Laurentian University offers one of the best Intramural Sports Programs in the country. Three years in a row (2002, 2003, 2004), we were given the Excellence in Intramural Sports Programs National Award from the Canadian Intramural Recreation Association (C.I.R.A.). This year we continued to strive to keep our program the best in the country.

There are many Intramural Sports to choose from at Laurentian University; therefore you are sure to find at least one sport that you are interested in joining. Look around campus the second week of September 2005 for registration dates of next year's sports. All registration takes place in the Active Living office (B-266) located in the Ben Avery Building. The office is opened between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and closed for lunch between 12 p.m. and 1:15 p.m. If you have any questions do not be afraid to contact us at 675-1151 ext. 1018.

The Intramural Sports Program offers great job opportunities for all full and part-time who attend Laurentian University. Working within the Intramural Sports Program is a fun and exciting experience. It is a great way to make some extra money, with flexible hours that are fitted to your own school schedule. We are always in great need for qualified referees in such sports as soccer, basketball, and volleyball. If you are not a qualified referee, we still have a job for you. The Intramural Sports program is also looking for scorekeepers. No extensive experience is required to score keep. You just need a basic knowledge of the sport that you are working with. If you are interested, please come in and fill out an application form at the Active Living office. Please bring along a resume and cover letter addressed to Ron Larwood, the Manager of the Department of Active Living.

Thanks to all participants, Convenors, Referees and Scorekeepers for a fantastic 2004/2005 Intramural Sports season. Hope to see everyone back again next year.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Arts & Entertainment Editors: Ben Rowe and Robin Crowder - lambda_arts@laurentian.ca

Strong performances in a difficult play: *The Crackwalker* gets the Thorneloe Theatre treatment

BY BEN ROWE
A & E EDITOR

When a play is as unflinchingly gritty and raw as *Crackwalker* is, it is easy not to notice the redeeming characteristics of the subjects. The characters can seem mired in their own narrow definitions of life; the bleak day-to-day effort it takes to eke out some semblance of order and control.

When the characters in a play seem to possess no virtue, nothing to create optimism that these people will find some meaning beyond subsistence living, it is up to the actors to dig deep and find some humanity in their roles.

For the most part, the actors in *Crackwalker* succeed in doing so.

Thorneloe University Theatre Arts performers are in the process of staging Judith Thompson's first play seven times over the course of nine days; March 11, 12, and 15-19. If the actors didn't remember all their lines to begin the run, they'll know them at the end.

Thompson's *Crackwalker* was first brought to the stage in 1980 at Toronto's controversial Theatre Passe Muraille, known for producing gritty, edgy, absurd and just plain bizarre works. *Crackwalker* takes place in the slums of Kingston, Ont. The play focuses on a group of four individuals, all of whom are struggling mightily to keep from falling into the cesspool of street life. The characters live in poverty, unable to do much more than survive. In this environment, we find a mentally-challenged prostitute, Theresa, who turns tricks for \$5 and has a penance for doughnuts. She finds a twisted yet strangely innocent form of love with Alan, another brain-hindered reject. Alan is a man failing miserably at the game of life, and finds salvation from the handicapped hooker. They are joined by another dysfunctional couple, Joe and Sandy.

Joe works a shit job for shit pay and is looking for better things and new destinations in life. He is a brutish man who enjoys playing with Sandy's mind and battering her body. Sandy is an embittered, beaten-down woman who is old before her time. In many ways the play's most sympathetic character, Sandy uses a façade of sharp-tongued

barbs to protect herself as best she can.

All the characters mirror real-life scenarios found in

Joe, played by final-year Arts student R.J. Comeau, is a low-brow brute whose behaviour is appalling to the audience.

Comeau is making a habit out of playing these dark roles after starring as a soldier in *The Monument* earlier this year. Comeau makes us believe that Joe is nothing but a boor and an idiot until a scene with Alan near the end of the play. Here, Comeau's Joe reveals some compassion and sympathy, redeeming qualities entirely unexpected from such a lout.

Present at various times during the play is a drunken, cracked-out homeless person, known simply as "The Man." He appears from time to time to remind the audience and the characters that there are worse lots in life, people who have far rockier roads than those travelled by the main characters. When Alan sinks into despair and gives up at the end, it is beside The Man. Played by acting neophyte Robert Hamilton, The Man speaks mostly in gibberish and always has a bottle in his pockets. Hamilton does down-and-out well.

Director Valerie Senyk flexes her creative muscles as well, getting third-year music student Aimee Leonard to write five songs for the play. Leonard, known locally for performances at The TowneHouse and 100 Georges, recently released a cd, *What Happened*. The songs she wrote for the play help accentuate the moods created by the scenes and, frankly, help distract the audience during set changes. Leonard writes effective lyrics that capture the emotion of a scene. By having Leonard appear in a slinky black dress, behind the curtain under the glare of a spotlight, Senyk does a wonderful job in creating the right atmosphere for such serious subject matter. She gets the most from her actors, as well. The four main characters and The Man all put in strong efforts under Senyk's direction.

Time is running out to see this compelling play. After tonight, there are only two more performances left. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for students and seniors. Showtimes are 8 pm at the Thorneloe Theatre.



Ben Rowe / LAMBDA

The *Crackwalker* cast poses for the camera. From left: Sarah Gartshore, R.J. Comeau, Vanessa Ominika, Frank Scardamaglia, and Robert Hamilton (front).

Huntington profs pay homage to jazz greats



Debbie Sauve / LAMBDA

Huntington music professor Alan Walsh performs a solo during an Oct. 3 performance. Walsh joined other Huntington profs for the latest instalment of the Huntington Concert Series last weekend.

BY ROBIN CROWDER
A&E EDITOR

The latest show in the Huntington Concert Series on Mar. 5 proved that it's not only Laurentian students who know what the jazz is all about, but their professors do as well.

The show entitled, *Just Friends, Just Standards*, featured faculty members Allan Walsh, Brian Quebec and Tony Simpkin in a jazz trio concert that paid homage to a number of jazz greats. The show received a wide and varied audience turn out with students, other staff and community members coming out to show their support for the group and to anxiously await the surprise special guest.

Walsh, Quebec and Simpkin are highly trained musicians who have been playing in various compositions of duos, trios and quartets as well as teaching music in the Sudbury community for over 20 years. Allan Walsh's specialty is the jazz saxophone, though he plays and teaches a couple other woodwinds as well, and he has held positions in the Hal McIntyre Orchestra and the Sudbury Symphony. He was a member of the 13th International Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland and some of his recordings have been

broadcasted nationally over the CBC Radio.

Brian Quebec is a part time faculty member with the Huntington music program, teaching jazz bass, and was classically trained at the University of Toronto. He, along with Tony Simpkin, regularly accompanies many of the well known jazz musicians who play in Sudbury. Simpkin is often hailed as the city's finest jazz pianist and was prominently featured in the university's recent tsunami benefit concert. Along with teaching piano at Huntington, he is the music director for MCTV's annual Christmas Telethon.

Just Friends, Just Standards preformed a variety of jazz standards that were well known to most of the audience, along with some lesser known favourites that have become somewhat of a tradition for their trio. An added bonus to the evening was special guest star Brian Quebec's daughter, who joined the trio with the vocals for two songs including one by jazz legend Thelonious Monk.

The performance received a standing ovation and sent audience members home with smiles on their faces and humming jazz tunes under their breaths.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Arts & Entertainment Editors: Ben Rowe and Robin Crowder - lambda_arts@laurentian.ca

Green beer and leprechauns: Irish for a day

BY BEN ROWE
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Ahhh, St. Patrick's Day. The first celebration of spring, a sign of the rebirth of the earth.

And the green beer.

Most people treat St. Patrick's Day as an excuse to drink, to dress in green and to pretend they're Irish. Local pubs are once again taking advantage of the opportunity to add dye to beer and offer up Celtic bands to patrons. If that's your cup of tea, then this is the article to read.

But first, a history lesson.

While a lot of facts are buried in folklore, there is a general consensus about the man who would become Saint Patrick. He was born Maewyn Succat, and was not Irish. He was born in Wales in the fourth century and was sold into slavery at the age of 16. After six years of slavery, working primarily as a shepherd, Succat escaped to Gaul and studied in the monastery in Auxerre for 12 years under St. Germain. It was there that he adopted the name Patrick and came to believe it was his duty to free Ireland from paganism and convert them to Christianity. He returned to Ireland with this hope and began his missionary work, angering the Celtic druids, who arrested him numerous times.

Some of the folklore suggests that St. Patrick gave a rousing sermon from a hilltop that drove all the snakes from Ireland. Since there are no snakes native to Ireland, it can be assumed that this story is a metaphor for the conversion of pagans.

The origins of the shamrock as a sign of luck came from St. Patrick. He used the famous clover to symbolize the Trinity (the father, the son and the Holy



Spirit) to the heathens. St. Patrick died on March 17, 461, which is why that date is celebrated.

The St. Patrick's Day custom came to North America in 1737 and was first celebrated in (surprise, surprise) Boston. Now a secular holiday, the holiday includes dressing in green, drinking beer and parades. In fact, over 100 U.S. and 25 Canadian cities have St. Patrick's Day parades.

School children began the tradition of wearing green. If you didn't wear green on St. Patrick's Day, you would be pinched. So if you see people not wearing green on March 17, feel free to pinch them.

But back to local celebrations.

The pub that proudly proclaims itself Irish would of

course have the most elaborate celebration of the day, so let's start there.

Along with the green beer, Peddler's Pub has a St. Patrick's Day countdown clock that ticks off the days every year. When it reaches zero at midnight on March 16, the festivities will begin.

The live entertainment starts at 1 pm on March 17 with Andrew Lowe, and continues with a myriad of traditional Celtic performers, including step dancers, the Sudbury Pipe Band, Glenn Campbell and Bernice Atkins, an 87 year-old step dancer, according to bartender Ashley Deline.

"We have green beer; we have Guinness on tap, as well as 12 different kinds of draft," she

said. "Come early, because it's going to be packed."

There is Irish food as well, including Shepherd's Pie, Guinness Irish Stew and bangers and mash.

Admission is \$5, which also gets you a free hat at the door.

The TowneHouse Tavern is also offering up a fun time. According to bartender Matt Foy, there will be numerous festivities, including a chair giveaway for the dirtiest limerick of the night.

The musical entertainment will include Jeremy Proctor and local talent The Billy John Band. Billy John is offering up some East Coast, Celtic music, including a fiddle player. With his family from Nova Scotia, Billy John feels that playing Celtic music is in the genes.

"This music is definitely in the blood," he said. "I've been travelling a lot around the country, but I feel this music the most."

Cover is going to be "somewhere around three or four dollars, under five bucks" Foy said.

According to Foy, he has been toying with the idea of a reverse cover, where people in leprechaun or other Irish attire will get a drink ticket, but that had not been finalized by press time.

"We're still looking for a midget to dress up as a leprechaun," Foy joked.

Other local venues are offering up Irish festivities as well.

The 1500 Pub has East Wind, a traditional Irish folk band. They will be playing two shows on March 17. The first, starting at about 3 pm, will cost \$5. The second, at about 9 pm, will cost \$8 with complimentary coatcheck. Of course, green beer is available.

100 Georges will feature Terra Cain and special guests, and a \$5 cover.

Beatles tribute band entertains large crowd at LU

Continued from Page One

After a short break, the Beatles reappeared as Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, complete with wildly coloured 'dresses' and sixties hippie-style signs asking for Applause or Laughter. Paul McCartney showcased his electric keyboard skills, Ringo Starr banged out melodies on his drums while John Lennon and George Harrison provided the occasional stage antic and dance. The second half of the show was somewhat lower key than the first with songs such as Let it Be, When I'm Sixty-Four and Here Comes the Sun, but audience members were nonetheless just as pumped up as in the beginning.

The rock'n'roll kept coming as three band members left the stage briefly to allow John Lennon to perform his solo All Across the Universe, decked out in his white suit from the Abbey Lane album. When Paul, George and Ringo returned, they too were dressed in the Abbey Lane gear, having changed not only costumes but facial hair as well. After wrapping up the show with Get Back, audience members screamed for more knowing that it couldn't be over as the band had yet to perform the everlasting Hey Jude. Sure enough, the Fab Four ran back on stage, inviting the crowd to sing along as they surely knew the words, and launched into a feisty version of Rock'n'Roll Music. The true display of talent came when the tribute band managed to mix that fast-paced tune perfectly into their final encore of Hey Jude. Quite possibly the most popular song of the evening, nearly every person in the Fraser was singing along, many waving their hands in the air and a few holding



Robin Crowder / LAMBDA

The Caverners performed at Fraser Auditorium on March 13, dressing and acting like the four Liverpool lads.

lighters in Beatles tradition. When the Caverners left the stage for good, the crowd stayed on their feet, clapping and cheering, cel-

ebrating a job very well done.

Also deserving of celebration for a job well done was the show's opening act of 'Sudbury's own, Marty Smetz and Jeremy Carreau', who performed some fabulous acoustic tunes. Covering a few songs from well known bands such as Sublime, The Doobie Brothers and Ben Harper, the duo also showcased some of their own originals, blending their vocal and guitar playing abilities in perfect harmony. In a unique twist, Marty and Jeremy completed their set with a mellow version of a Beatles classic I Saw Her Standing There, giving the listeners a taste of things to come - not only from the Caverners, but from their group as well as this duo is certainly something to keep your eyes and ears on!

Finally, a big congratulations goes out the entire fourth year SPAD class whose tireless work was evident in all aspects of the evening from prizes and sponsors, a collection of Beatles trivia and varied concession stand - including hot dogs they barbequed themselves out in the cold. A big hand to the MC of the evening, Paul Krotz, who continually put himself on the line, thanking sponsors, introducing the bands, announcing the raffle prizes and keeping the audience involved during intermissions. The early ice breaker of 'Beatles Idol', in which he himself sang a few lines from Hey Jude and invited other attendees up to do the same, was well done and extremely entertaining, providing a great lead in to the Beatles tribute band. Once again, congratulations on a job well done fourth year SPAD!

And for all of you who missed the Caverners show - I hope you get the chance to see them another time because their performance is as close to the Beatles as anyone can get!

STUDENT CORNER

Election season at the SGA



CATHY CARROLL

It's election time! This is your opportunity to have a voice as to who represents you, the student. The individuals that you elect to lead

your student association are responsible to represent you at all levels throughout the University. Thus, your opinion matters! As you are no doubt now aware, we are in the campaigning portion of the elections. I'm sure you have all seen the multitude of posters now covering the walls. I know it is a lot of paper, but we do encourage our candidates to reuse and recycle! There will be elections speeches taking place in the Science II Cafeteria and in the Great Hall. Today (Thursday) at 11:30, the candidates will be in the Science II Cafeteria telling you why you should vote for them. If you are unable to attend these speeches, there will be a second opportunity on Monday, March 21 in the Great Hall. This is also your opportunity to ask questions of the candidates to help you determine your vote. The

actual voting will take place on March 23rd and 24th at various locations. Please take this opportunity to vote. A special elections edition of Lambda will be coming out with information on all the candidates, so make sure you take a look at it, come to the speeches and make an informed decision. Again, these are the people that will represent you, so please take the time to vote.

Other happenings in the SGA/AGE, we have a couple events left before the end of the year, so this is your last chance to get out and have a bit of pre-exam fun! During the week of March 28th to April 1st, the SGA/AGE and the Pub Downunder will be hosting an Original Nintendo tournament. This event will be \$5 to enter and the winner will receive a cash prize. For more information and to sign up,

stop by the SGA/AGE office. On Friday, April 1st, the SGA/AGE, Molson Canadian, and the Pub Downunder will be holding the 1st Annual Ball Hockey Tourney. This is a great event to get some exercise and show your skill. The cost is \$50 per team with cash and prizes going to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams. To sign up or get more information, come to the SGA/AGE office at SCE 212.

We've been getting great feedback from your surveys, so thanks for the help, and if you have yet to complete one, please stop by the office and fill one out for your chance to win a \$100 Gift Certificate from the bookstore.

Cheers,
Cathy Carroll
President, SGA

Fourth-year Laurentian students ask: What do I do now?



PHIL EVANS

BY CHRIS BLOMME
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

Year end is coming. Thoughts of the future might be squeezed in as we cram for those final essays, tests and fear of all fears; the public presentation. Phil Evans has been working hard on his fourth-year thesis project in Neuroscience. It has been an interesting project for him. One that might help him with his pursuit as a northern doctor. When asked what the title of his work is, he responds in a cautious manner. "In a nutshell my project is the neuroprotective role of erythropoietin", he states. There is a brief moment of silence while I recoup and ask "What does that mean?" Phil smiles and answers with the typical manner of a scientist. The drug "EPO or erythropoietin is used to treat humans who suffer from anemia." Some of the "literature suggests it may have a neuroprotective role for the brain. I am investigating two possible mechanisms of this role" using a rat model. I ask a few more details. The animals are given a non-invasive treatment. Tissue is collected and histology is done on the tissues to look for effects.

Phil has a long standing interest in neuroscience. When asked when it

first occurred, he responded with a surprising answer. Incidents as far back as grade four have led him to his current career choice. A special education program entitled the "enrichment withdrawal program" stimulated the interest. This program identified certain young students for special week long sessions with their peers from around the region. They had approximately four of these week long sessions in the year. Special projects would arise and the human brain had a particular impact. He got to meet a neurologist and tour the local hospital as well. Near the end of high school at St. Charles, Phil applied to McMaster, Western, Toronto and Laurentian. Laurentian stood out. He had learned of the Neuroscience program here. Living close to home to cut costs was another important factor. Phil lives in Falconbridge and takes the local transit system to get to school. It takes one hour and fifteen minutes, one way.

Phil's experiences at Laurentian are favourable. He recalls the remarks of one professor during thesis class. Anyone can make the grade. It is when pushing that bar that you truly challenge yourself. His bar has been pushed by the challenges required in Neuroscience by Dr. M. Persinger, Ms L.St.Pierre and in Biochemistry by Dr. E. Gauthier.

Phil has an older brother and a younger brother. His older brother is at Western embarking on a career choice of chemical engineering with a slant towards law. The younger brother is still growing up. April is fast approaching. Phil's four years at Laurentian will earn him a science degree. He has applied for medical school and has been granted an interview. It will occur after his thesis defense and falls on April second. We wish him the best of luck and skill in his endeavors.



VIVIAN HOANG

BY CHRIS BLOMME
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

Vivian Hoang has a vivacious personality. When she comes into the lab she brings a lot of joy with her. She is a fourth-year student in Neuroscience and is nearing the last lag of her undergraduate degree. A decision will need to be made soon. What will I do now? Not to be undone, she has already applied for the Masters program in Science at Laurentian University.

Vivian is a born and raised Sudburian. She hails from the region known as New Sudbury (which is not that new anymore). She went to Catholic school at St. Raphael's. She recalls always being interested in the paranormal, psychology, the behavioural aspect of people and how people think. Mrs. Trebb; her enrichment teacher, told her that if you are interested in those things then there is a professor at Laurentian that specializes in those areas. One of many seeds was planted. Vivian was fortunate enough to become a participant in the "Enrichment Withdrawal Program". This program allowed certain students a chance to excel. It is during this program that she became exposed to topics such as the human brain, electricity and other areas of special concentration. The experience was most rewarding. Her high school

years were at St. Charles.

At the end of high school she had a decision to make. Her parents had encouraged her to try for a medical profession. She excelled in her courses and so she had several avenues to choose from. She applied to University of Toronto, Western and Laurentian. Scholarships were available from all of them. "Why choose Laurentian?" I asked. She stated that she felt LU had just as much to offer in the area of her interest as the other two universities. Costs were also a consideration.

I asked Vivian what were some of the experiences that she enjoyed at Laurentian? The happy atmosphere and opportunities to interact closely with the faculty was her response. She recalls a story somewhat comical in nature but relevant to her feelings. She recalls idling at a stop sign with a fellow student when one of the profs drives up in a parallel lane. They wave, perhaps a little mischievously, and get a friendly wave back. It is just this kind of comradery that makes LU personable.

In a few more weeks Vivian will be presenting her thesis topic in "immunosuppression in head injuries". Her literature search has shown that there are over a million people in the United States alone that have acquired some form of head trauma. Head trauma can be represented by a wide range, from mild bumps on low hanging rafters to more serious accidents such as car collisions. Head trauma can result in increased inflammation and associated immune cell activity. This activity, though defensive in nature, may result in increased deleterious events. It is this mechanism that interests the fourth year student.

Vivian is strongly leaning towards a career as a professor. She stated that the aspect of public speaking and teaching really appeals to her. Superimposed upon this is the need to do research that is relevant to a medical application. She has had a unique opportunity to experience this at Laurentian.

LAMBDA REVIEWS

Underground Cafe gets above average review

BY TARYN GREEN
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

Have you ever gone looking for a café in Sudbury with the same jazzy and artsy feel as ones you can find in bigger cities? Something different and something fresh with retro furniture and a welcoming atmosphere - a place you can call home? Well, if you go searching hard enough, hidden in the back streets of the Donovan on 468 Antwerp St. behind Golded Pizza, you will find such a place - a diamond in the rough appropriately named The Underground Café because of its unique location in the basement of the Grace Family Church, previously known as The Old Sampo Hall. Yes, you read it correctly! This unique café is underneath a church.

Krystal Gratton, 21, who moved to Sudbury from the Toronto area, was used to visiting bistros and cafés with a unique atmosphere. "I felt Sudbury needed a space like this and I think it offers a great enhancement to our community," says Gratton. Gratton wrote a proposal to the Grace Family Church in April 2004. "They loved the idea," she says, "and have done all they could to assist. I would strongly encourage people to visit the cafe and not let the building intimidate them. It is a neutral space."

Krystal volunteers her time serving customers at the café, working hard to create a welcoming atmosphere for all who enter.

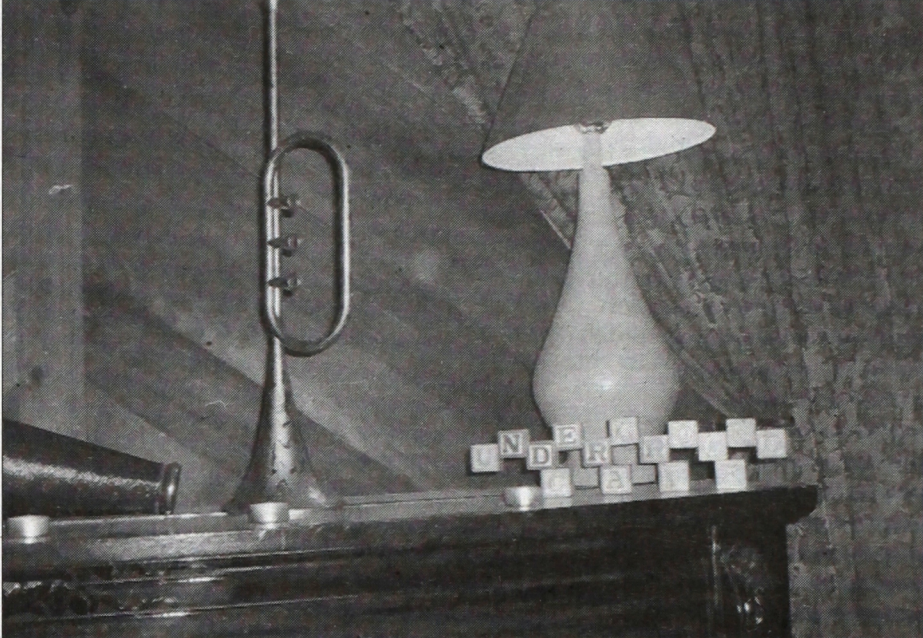
The Underground Café is furnished with many comfortable couches perfect for lounging with friends, creating a laid back and relaxing atmosphere to get your mind off the

sometimes chaotic world. It is also a musical sanctuary in which live music is featured; you can even bring your own instruments and entertain the customers. Once you have found a place to hang your hat for the evening, you will forget you are in a café, let alone a church basement with an atmosphere much like stepping into the house of a good friend.

And the price for comfort and good memories is relatively cheap. Hot chocolate, teas, coffee, juices are all around the one dollar mark, tax included; the largest ice-cream sandwich the world has ever seen, putting Dairy Queen's to shame, is only two dollars.

"The prices are very cheap for the time being as the cafe is still being introduced to the community," explains Gratton. "Eventually prices will have to go up but only to keep in range with restocking prices. We are a non-profit cafe, this way we are able to keep prices as low as possible. Generally people stay quite a long time when visiting the cafe and low prices make it easy to enjoy great food and drinks during their visit." The Underground Café offers prices that students can easily afford. It is also a great place for a date, somewhere quiet and different where you can talk and get to know each other.

"The inspiration to start The Underground Cafe came from my desire to create an inviting space for young adults to converse in a environment where all types of people and cultures could feel comfortable. A cafe where you can lounge, mingle, enjoy live music, and dip into a somewhat, shall we say, artistic realm." Gratton says that something must be going



Taryn Green / LAMBDA

The Underground Cafe, as shown above, offers a unique jazzy atmosphere in the middle of the city.

right as she already sees regulars and has only received positive feedback. "Everyone that has spoken to me about the cafe is quite happy with it and they enjoy the atmosphere."

The Underground Café is hoping to open more often as soon as this café gains the appropriate recognition within the community. Gratton and her fellow volunteers will be there two nights in April to meet and greet you and your friends.

"I am very thankful to all the people who have helped make this happen" says Gratton, "and I strongly encourage others to drop in and check it out for themselves. I think you'll love it too!"

So if you need a break from your studies or just tired of the same old bars and cafés, why not try something new and affordable? Bring a friend or bring five, have an enchanting night of pleasant company and leave with unforgettable memories.

For more information about The Underground Café, especially any questions regarding the exact dates and times it will be open next, Krystal Gratton invites you to email her at the-undergroundcafe@hotmail.com.

CKLU PROGRAM GUIDE						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Slot Available 7:30-10am	Ryannon 7:30-11am	Mind Job 7:30-10am	Slot Available 7:30-10am	Extra Points Sports 8-9am	Slot Available 8-10am	Imagination from the other side 9-11am
Slot Available 10-12pm	The SGA Hour 10-11am The Witching Hour 11-12pm	Monster A Go-Go 10-12pm	Electric Rodeo 9-10am Putumayo World music 10-11am	Reg's Recycled Records 9-11am	And Now... 10-12pm	La belle et la bete 11-12pm
RFI Magazine 12-2pm	Jazz at Midday 12-2pm	Slot Available 12-2pm	Euroquest 11-12pm	Peek at the Past 11-1pm	Green Tea 12-2pm	Radio Polonia 12-1:30pm
Tower of Blues 2-4pm	From a basement 2-4pm	Slot Available 2-4pm	Making Contact 12-12:30pm	Music of your Life 1-2pm	Unintentional Mohawk 2-4pm	In Praise of Borders 1:30-2:30pm
Radio Goethe 4-5pm	ONE GUS RADIO ONE GUS 4-6pm	Broken Tech Radio 4-6pm	W.I.N.G.S. 12:30-1:30pm	Sounds for Seniors 2-4pm	Harsh Mellow 4-6pm	Vibrations of India 2:30-4pm
Punked*U8 5-7pm	Nickel Plated Juke Box 6-8pm	A-PAC 6-7pm	Counterspin 1:30-2pm	Japanimania 4-6pm	The Sunny Side of the Street 6-8pm	Femme Fetale 4-6pm
Four Directions 7-8pm	Artistry in Jazz 8-10pm	Rivets for Breakfast 7-8pm	Jazzomania 2-4pm	New World Monkeys 6-7pm	We be Jammin' 8-10pm	Slot 6-7pm Slot 7-8pm
Restaurant at the End of the Universe 8-10pm	Screwing the Pooch 10-12am	Midweek Tempo 8-10pm	Hot Like Wasabi 4-6pm	Serenata Italiana 7-8pm	Trance Till Twelve 10-12am	Down on the Upside 8-10pm
18 Mile Red 10-12am	Slot Available 12-2:30am	New School Depanneur 10-12am	Hot Bunny Radio 6-8pm	Artistry in Jazz 8-10pm	Slot Available 12-2:30am	Yo - Mama 10-12am
Slot Available 12-2:30am	CKLU 96.7 FM	Way Out 12-2:30am	La revanche des singes volants 8-10pm	Eleven Past the Gizzard 10-12am	CKLU 96.7 FM	Slot Available 12-2:30am
CKLU 96.7 FM	CKLU 96.7 FM	CKLU 96.7 FM	The Blizzard of Oz 10-12am	HerbNmagic 12-2:30am	CKLU 96.7 FM	CKLU 96.7 FM
CKLU 96.7 FM	CKLU 96.7 FM	CKLU 96.7 FM	Slot Available	CKLU 96.7 FM	CKLU 96.7 FM	CKLU 96.7 FM

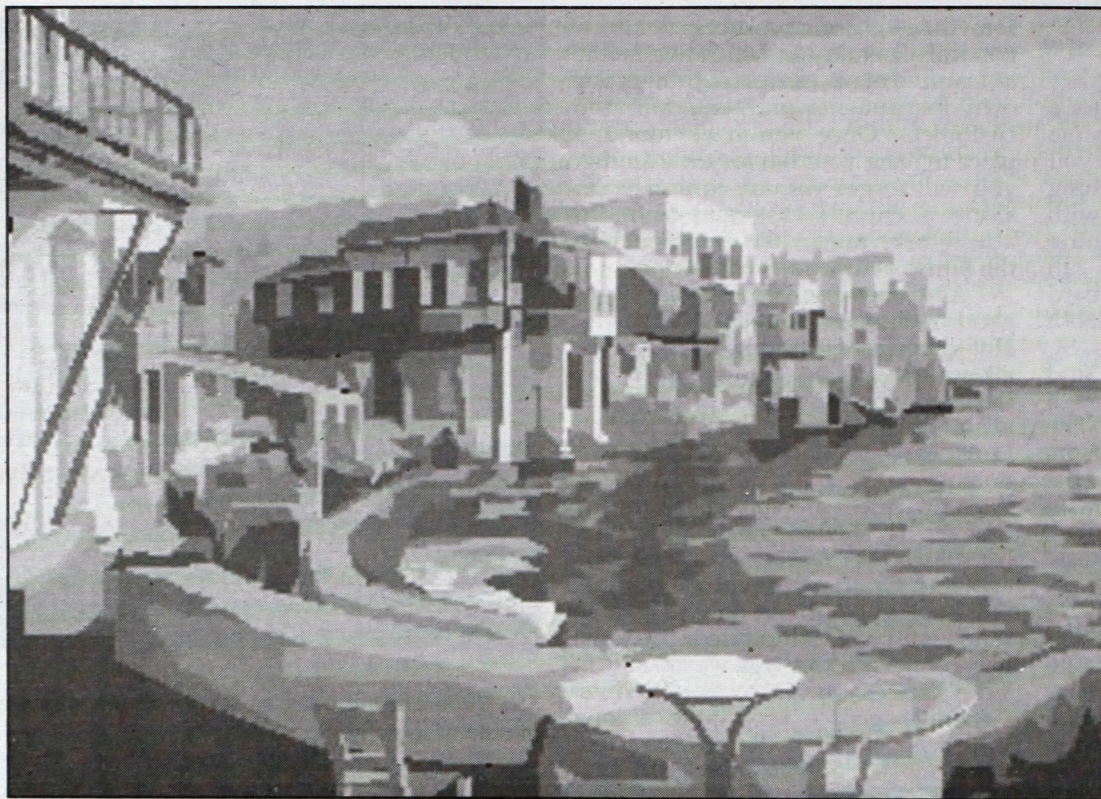
LAMBDA REVIEWS

Restaurant Review: A little taste of Greece

BY ROBIN CROWDER
A&E EDITOR

Tucked about half way between the Kingsway and Lasalle Boulevard with a rather plain and unassuming exterior, Stelios (formerly known as The Greek Garden) had never really enticed me as a fabulous place to eat. However, on a cold and snowy Monday evening, in an attempt to get rid of the winter blahs, two girlfriends and I decided to embark on the only type of European experience we could afford - a cozy dinner with cultural content. We decided on Greek food as a whim, but Stelios was a more than pleasant surprise and it is with a full and happy stomach that I write this article.

Described as a Greek-Canadian experience, Stelios takes diners straight to the heart of the Mediterranean. Locally owned and operated, the atmosphere of the restaurant is warm and inviting, with the owner himself welcoming, seating and serving us. Soft Greek music played in the background as we sat at a booth surrounded by pale blue dividing walls decorated with ceramic plates depicting scenes from various regions of Greece. Brightly coloured murals adorned other parts of the restaurant and a vibrant ceramic mosaic decorated the countertops, making for what felt like an



Admittedly, this is not Stelios. But the food at Stelios is just as good as if it came straight from a little Greek restaurant like this one.

authentic Greek experience, or at least a My Big Fat Greek Wedding experience! As my friends and I sat there, we truly expected to look out the window and see a dazzling sunny sky with sea waves crashing on the shore.

As for the menu, it offered a wide variety of options, including a small vegetarian section which is not something often found in a Greek restaurant. The owner was eager to help us

with our selections; explaining the different types of food and telling us about the specials, making us feel as though we were more than just customers, but family as well. My vegetarian souvlaki was a medley of fresh vegetables grilled to perfection and accompanied by a Greek salad, delicately flavoured rice, and lemon roasted potatoes with a side of tangy tatziki sauce.

As for my girlfriends, their chicken souvlaki was

moist and tender, grilled in a succulent garlic olive oil. The menu also offered other classic fare such as flaky spanikopita, gyros with pita, signature seafoods, traditional meat dishes and tantalizing Greek inspired pasta creations. For the large portion of food we received, our meals were well priced and extremely enjoyable.

Despite being more than full from our main course, the owner's delight in describing his top of the line

desserts to us managed to convince us to find room in our stomachs for the next part of the meal; we all decided to indulge in a cup of coffee and a slice of chocolate truffle royal cake. This decadent dessert was a three tiered slice of heaven layering moist chocolate cake with velvety white and chocolate mousse, and topped with a smooth dark chocolate frosting, swirled with shaved white chocolate. The creamy layers melted in my mouth in a sensual mingling of fabulous taste sensations, making it hands down the best dessert I have yet to taste in this city.

Admittedly, the weather kept most people away and we were the only diners for a long time, but the service was speedy and unpressured. The owner continually checked on us, started up conversation, encouraged us to take our time in enjoying our meal and even finished by presenting us with a card for a free appetizer as an incentive to return for another meal. Though we happily accepted the token, the warm and homey atmosphere, the friendly service and the delectable dishes had already convinced us we'd be taking a trip back soon.

All in all, Stelios was a fantastic taste of Greece, perfect for anyone looking to experience something more than standard chain restaurants have to offer, and I encourage everyone to stop by for a visit. Opa!

'In Between Dreams' does not disappoint

BY ROBIN CROWDER
A&E EDITOR

Artist: Jack Johnson

CD: In Between Dreams

Genre: a cross between folksy lyrics, lazy guitar strumming and feel good chilling out
Comments: Jack Johnson fans will surely not be disappointed with this latest release as the artist sticks to his 'tried, tested and true' methods - there is really nothing new on this CD.

A part from a short track, Belle, with 12 lines of French and an interesting accordion sound, Johnson's crooning continues to recycle the melodic formula his listeners have come to know and love. Of course, this is not to say the new album is disappointing, far from it, just that it is interesting how an artist who draws his inspiration from Ben Harper and Bob Marley fails to take chances with his music in the way his idols did and do.



The album's lead track, Better Together, has a sweet and pleasant quality, and the lyrics continue to maintain Johnson's image of the content-man-in-love. However, the album does have some variety as Johnson makes the transition from ruminating about Making Banana Pancakes to expressing sorrow and confusion over the war in Iraq through Crying Shame.

Even in this track he does not seem to be able to leave behind his laid back Hawaiian heart to get truly worked up. None the less, this CD is relaxing and easy to listen to, with the occasional fun and catchy lyrics to make you sit up and pay attention.

If you have enjoyed his previous two albums, then be sure to check out this new one...though you might want to just take a listen before you invest.

Restaurant Review: Ripe for the picking

BY ROBIN CROWDER
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Sudbury's newest dining establishment is ready and ripe for the picking - literally. Ripe opened its doors to the public on Mar. 10, and things are looking promising.

A chef by trade, owner Marc Grottoli partnered up with his wife Nancy-Jo Ramsay in an attempt to bring something modern and funky to Sudbury's selection of restaurants. Located in Four Corners area at 1788 Regent St South, the restaurant is small and cozy with warm brown walls, gold accented tables and comfortable high back chairs. The goal is to maintain an easy going, relaxed atmosphere where people can come to enjoy the company of friends with great food and fresh desserts, all at comparable prices. "We're really trying to keep the cost low and pass the savings along to the customers," said Grottoli.

Though one of the restaurant's biggest pulls is its wide variety of brick oven pizza, made fresh and baked right before your eyes in the dining area, it also offers a number of different pasta dishes and entrées, accompanied by a simple yet diverse wine list. The pasta is served fresh, though can be substituted for a whole wheat linguine, and rather than filling it up with excess sauce, is loaded with a medley of vegetables and roasted garlic.

Its namesake pasta is a penne made with goat cheese, grilled chicken, pine nuts, baby spinach, mushrooms and fragrant basil, and has received extremely positive reviews. However, if Grottoli were to choose a signature dish, he says he would go with the wood smoked salmon entrée. Cooked with actual wood chips and served with a grilled apple and caramelized onion chutney that really brings out the distinct

tive flavour, the salmon is somewhat of a comfort dish.

In an interesting concept, one of Ripe's featured soups is what Grottoli calls a "duo soup"; it is a ladle of creamy tomato on one side of the bowl and a ladle of roasted garlic on the other, the complementary flavours blending in the middle, and served with a homemade, mini baguette bread stick.

Ripe is also the first of its kind in Sudbury to boast a full-time pastry, making it the perfect place to go if you're just looking for dessert. Having operated a pastry business out of his home for a number of years, Grottoli has supplied desserts to a number of restaurants in the city and has created a repertoire of fine pastries.

Offering much more than the standard frozen desserts found in many other restaurants, Grottoli stresses the fact that the treats at Ripe are made fresh in the eatery. Things such as homemade crème brûlée and chocolate caramel crunch cake are popular items, and the "Better than eruption" is the owner's own version of the ever enjoyable chocolate eruption cheesecake. The desserts average around \$5.50 each, a very reasonable price, and are exquisitely garnished.

The restaurant is open Monday to Thursday from 11:30am to 10pm, Fridays from 11:30am to 11pm and Saturdays from 4:30pm to 11pm. Diners are seated on a first come, first serve basis and in order to maintain a welcoming atmosphere, reservations are not accepted.

"I don't want people to feel rushed. This is a place where you come to sit down and relax," says Grottoli. An ideal location for students looking for late evening desserts, classic cocktails and fire roasted pizzas, Ripe is a place that is worth checking out.

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Students turn out for Job Fair



Neil Zacharjewicz / LAMBDA

Many students turned out last week for the Job Fair held in the bowling alley. There were a wide variety of booths for students to visit, including this one featuring the Department of National Defense.

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